

~~SECRET~~

WI/125/25/98-EW

UK

भारत सरकार  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

विदेश मंत्रालय  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

नई दिल्ली  
NEW DELHI

फाईल नं०  
FILE NO.

WI/125/25/98-EW

खण्ड

VOLUME

टिप्पणियां/पत्राचार

NOTES/CORRESPONDENCE

विषय

Subject

RS SQ Dy. No. 001999-  
Netaji Subhas Chandra  
Bose's name as War Criminal

पिछले हवाले  
Previous Reference

बाद के हवाले  
Later Reference

DECLASSIFIED

NOTE - P-1-2

CORR - 1-120

Total: 122

(अरुण कुमार चटर्जी)  
(ARUN KUMAR CHATTERJEE)  
संयुक्त सचिव (स. व. व.)  
Joint Secy (S. & V.)  
विदेश मंत्रालय - नई दिल्ली  
Ministry of External Affairs  
New Delhi

Keep





Ministry of External Affairs  
Europe West Division  
—X—

①

Ref: FR

Please examine.

DIR(EW)

Sd/-  
JS(EW)  
16/7

Necessary action please.

US(EW-II)

Sd/-  
DIR(EW)  
16/7

This relates to Netaji name being included in the U.K's list of War Criminals. Please put up previous papers.

SO(EW)

Sd/-  
US(EW-II)  
17/7

US(EW-II) may please see the various files related to this FR.

Point  
18/7

SO(EW) Mark 19/7

US(EW-II) Thanks. I have sent the F/R and other copies of relevant papers through JS(EW) to JS(CAW).

Yany  
19/7

SO(EW)  
Sd/- 19/7



NAO Section

We may return this file to EW Dirn.

~~LS~~  
14/5/2002

~~US(NAO)~~

Mitch  
14/5/02

US(EW)

3494/NSO/w  
15/5



Ministry of External Affairs  
Europe West Division

Most Immediate

1. Reference F/R from Ministry of Home Affairs requesting MEA to examine Hindustan Samajwadi Prajatantra Sena (HSPS)'s request that the agreement reached with the U.K on 14<sup>th</sup> August 1947 be placed on the Table of the House. HSPS has also sought information regarding the disappearance/death of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose and his inclusion in the list of war criminals drawn up by various foreign countries after World War II.

2. EW Division does not have any papers pertaining to the agreement reached with the U.K on 14 August 1947. Further, all relevant papers relating to the disappearance/death of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose are currently with CNV Division. However, during the previous Parliament sessions, we obtained information on Netaji's inclusion in the list of war criminals by the U.K. Both the British Foreign Office and the Ministry of Defence have confirmed to our High Commission in London that Netaji's name is not in the list of war criminals drawn up by the U.K after World War II. Copies of Mission's self-explanatory faxes are enclosed. In view of the nature of information sought by the Ministry of Home Affairs, it is requested that we may forward the F/R and HCI London's faxes to CNV Division for appropriate action at their end.

May kindly approve.

(Vani S. Rao)

Under Secretary (EW-II)

19 July, 2001

Director (EW)

may kindly see and approve  
action proposed at 'x' above

JS (EW)

As proposed.

Bm  
20/7/2001

19/7.

Di (EWS)

W. apl.

Di (CNV)

45/2

May wish to take appropriate action on the F/R.  
(We have retained a copy)

Di (CNV)





विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
NEW DELHI

2

**FAX MESSAGE / CRASH CRASH CRASH**

FROM: FOREIGN NEW DELHI

TO : HICOMIND LONDON

Navdeep Suri, Counsellor (P&I) from JS(EW)

*Dear Navdeep,*

The attached article in the front page of The Asian Age of today, refers to the refusal by the British Government to declassify some of its top secret files containing reference to Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose till 2021, thwarting the efforts of the Justice Mukherjee Commission which is charged with the investigation of Netaji's disappearance.

Grateful if you could send some clarification on the veracity of this report.

*Regards,*

No. 4784 /JS(EW)/2001

*Bhaswati*

(Bhaswati Mukherjee)  
Joint Secretary (EW)  
21st August 2001

*nc*

*27/8  
u/s*

*23/8  
SO(EW)*

*23/8  
SO(EW)  
muk*

*u/s*

*1/c  
Dir(EW)*



3

## UK refuses access to Netaji files

BY OUR SPECIAL  
CORRESPONDENT

New Delhi, Aug. 20: The British government has refused to declassify some of its top secret files containing references to Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose till 2021, thwarting renewed efforts being made in India to unravel the mystery behind his disappearance during World War II over 55 years ago.

The files will remain sealed in British archives for another 20 years, reportedly for security reasons.

Members of the Justice Mukherjee Commission, which is charged with investigating Netaji's disappearance, met two British experts, Col. J. Hughtoye and Lord Peter Archur, who have had access to the classified material, in London last month. But while both of them readily cooperated with the commission, the British government refused to allow the Indian investigators direct access to the classified material. A spokesperson of the British high commission in

■ Turn to Page 2

THE ASIAN AGE  
21. 08. 2001

## Netaji files in UK

■ Continued from Page 1

New Delhi, Mr Gerry McCrudden, said here that the British government had declassified all the files that it had in its archives which dealt with Netaji's disappearance. "All the files we had on Netaji have been opened for people to see. However, there are a few files which are still classified, which have nothing to do with Netaji's disappearance. They might have some reference to Netaji but have absolutely no information on his disappearance."

Dr Purabi Roy, a Russian expert and leading researcher on Netaji's disappearance who has been conducting her research in Moscow and Britain, expressed doubts about the rationale behind the British government's decision. Dr Roy, who firmly believes that Bose did not die in the 1945 aircrash, alleged that there was a "deep-rooted" conspiracy for long at the highest level to suppress facts about Netaji as a "Pandora's box might open" if the truth came out.

The Justice Mukherjee Commission, which has been sitting alternately in New Delhi and Kolkata ever since it was set up by the Vajpayee government in 1999, has had its term extended twice. It has organised a number of hearings, talked to a large number of witnesses, including several former aides of Netaji, and recorded their views. The commission's next session will be on Wednesday, when it is scheduled to record the testimony of more witnesses.



4

Ministry of External Affairs  
Europe West Division

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*Vani S. Rao*

(Vani S. Rao)  
Under Secretary (EW-II)  
19 July, 2001

Director (EW)

o/c

SO(EW)





Jayant Prasad  
Joint Secretary (CNV)  
Tel: 301-1357 & Fax : 379-2285

⑤ No. 13905/EW/100  
13/11

7939/JS(EW)/100  
7/11  
विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
NEW DELHI

No.25/4/NGO-Vol.V

November 6, 2000

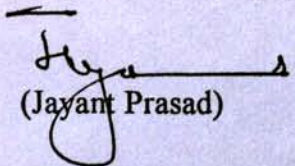
Dear Dr. Sarkar,

I am writing apropos letter No.JMCI/DOC/FOR/99-2000/546/310 of November 1<sup>st</sup> from Shri P.K.Sengupta, Secretary, Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry, a copy of which has also been endorsed to you.

2. Our Mission in London has already been in touch with the authorities of the British Library who have indicated that they would be happy to assist those deputed from India to look at the recently declassified records (copies of letters received from the High Commission attached for ready reference).

3. You are advised to draw an appropriate programme and maintain direct contact with our Mission in London. Please ensure that the copies of the correspondence are endorsed to us to ensure effective coordination and liaison.

Yours sincerely,

  
(Jayant Prasad)

Shri S. Sarkar  
Director General of Archives  
National Archives of India  
Janpath  
New Delhi.

CC : 1. Shri P.K.Sengupta, Secretary, Justice Mukherji Commission of Inquiry,  
'B' Block(3<sup>rd</sup> floor), 11/A Mirza Ghalib Street, Calcutta-700 087.

2. Ms Bhaswati Mukherji, Joint Secretary(EW), Ministry of External  
Affairs, New Delhi.

arr  
9/11/00  
Dri (EW)

arr  
10/11/00  
muf

arr  
10/11/00  
50(EW)  
SAD



(6)

# THE BRITISH LIBRARY

Mr S K Mandal  
The High Commission of India  
India House  
Aldwych  
London  
WC2B 4NA

## ORIENTAL AND INDIA OFFICE COLLECTIONS

96 EUSTON ROAD  
LONDON NW1 2DB 7840  
Telephone 020 7412  
Fax 020 7412 7641/7858  
E-mail oioc-enquiries@bl.uk

our ref OIOC2-109-96-26  
your ref  
date 21 September 2000

Dear Mr Mandal

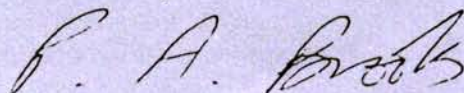
Following a telephone conversation with Miss Travis, I am writing to explain the preparations that will be necessary to ensure that the visit by the Justice Mukherji Commission will be successful. I have discussed the visit with Graham Shaw and we are agreed that they will find it most convenient to obtain British Library readers' passes as they will then be able to use our reading room. This will give them the flexibility to come and go as they please within our opening hours of 9-30 to 17-00 Tuesday to Saturday and 10-00 to 17-00 on Mondays.

If you can let me know the names of the members of the Commission who will be visiting, I can authorise the application forms in advance. However, the individual members will need to fill in the rest of the form on arrival and go to the Reader Admissions Office to be photographed and have the pass produced. If you can let me know the date and time of their arrival, either I or a colleague will meet them and help them through the admissions process.

You may be interested to know that the records of the Indian Political Intelligence have just been filmed and will shortly be available as a micro-fiche publication. It is not necessary to buy the whole series – one can buy only those of specific interest.

I shall be absent for most of this week and next. On my return I shall be happy to cooperate in making the visit go smoothly.

Yours sincerely



Mrs P A Brook  
Head of India Office Records  
E-mail: penny.brook@bl.uk





Vikas Swarup  
Counsellor (Pol.)  
Tel.: (00-44-20) 7836 8484 Extn. 164  
Fax: (00-44-20) 7836 6695  
E-Mail: 106332.3624@compuserve.com

भारत का हाई कमीशन  
लन्दन

THE HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA  
INDIA HOUSE  
ALDWYCH  
LONDON WC2B 4NA

Lon/Pol/103/17/00

22<sup>nd</sup> September, 2000

Dear Sir,

Refer your fax of September 18 regarding declassified British government records required by the Mukherjee Commission.

We had written to the Foreign Office, who in turn contacted the Head of the Oriental and India Office Library Collections at the British Library. The Head of the India Office Library would welcome a visit from the National Archives of India and/or Justice Mukherji Commission of Inquiry to examine them. We have also been informed that these files have additionally been transferred to microfiche, which can be purchased should there be a further need to study the information back in India.

I have requested Mr. Graham Shaw, the Head of the India Office Library Collection to inform me of the purchase price and will revert to you after hearing from him.

Warm regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Vikas Swarup)

Shri Jayant Prasad,  
JS(CNV)  
Ministry of External Affairs  
NEW DELHI



No 13113/EW/00  
9/10

(8)



Vikas Swarup  
Counsellor (Pol.)  
Tel.: (00-44-20) 7836 8484 Extn. 164  
Fax: (00-44-20) 7836 6695  
E-Mail: 106332.3624@compuserve.com

भारत का हाई कमीशन  
लन्दन  
THE HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA  
INDIA HOUSE  
ALDWYCH  
LONDON WC2B 4NA

22<sup>nd</sup> September, 2000

Lon/Pol/103/17/00

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Yours sincerely,

*Self*  
(Vikas Swarup)

Shri Jayant Prasad,  
JS(CNV)  
Ministry of External Affairs  
NEW DELHI

✓ Copy to Shri BS Bishnoi, Director(EW), Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi.

*Papers on  
Netaji*

*al m  
5/10*

*unsub*

*11/5/10*  
*SO (F.W.)  
S.N.S.*  
(Vikas Swarup)





गणतंत्र REPUBLIC

DR. SUKUMAR SARKAR  
Director General of Archives  
Government of India

D.O.No. F. 25-2(9)/2000.CC.

राष्ट्रीय अभिलेखागार  
भारत सरकार  
जनपथ, नई दिल्ली - ११० ००१

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA  
JANPATH, NEW DELHI - 110 001

Tele No. 3383438  
Fax : 0091- 11- 3384127  
E mail : archives@ren02.nic.in  
Website : http://nationalarchives.nic.in

Dated the ... 05 SEP 2000 ...

Dear Ms. Mukherji,

You may be aware that Government of India have constituted the Justice Mukherji Commission of Inquiry to investigate the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. We have received a reference from Sh. P.K. Sengupta, Secretary of the Commission, who visited National Archives of India, some time back, informing that there are about 700 files which have been recently thrown open for access to the scholars and some of them relating to Netaji are available in the British Library, London (copy of the letter along with a copy of letter from British High Commission, Calcutta are enclosed for ready reference). These files originated in the India Office's Public and Judicial Department in London and contain material relevant to the points of the present inquiry.

For facilitating the work of the Commission, it has been suggested that a team of officials from the National Archives of India and the Justice Mukherji Commission of Inquiry may visit London and examine the files available in the British Library. I shall appreciate if you could request our Mission in London to take up the matter with the authorities of the British Library so as to enable us to work out the modalities and approach the Government of India for the approval of the proposed visit by a team of officials to London.

With good wishes,

Yours sincerely,

( S. Sarkar )

4.9.2000

Ms. Bhaswati Mukherji,  
Joint Secretary,  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
South Block,  
New Delhi.

A. write to HCI  
London (to Mr. Swamy)  
on the lines proposed  
above - B.M.  
Ji (Exp) 13/9/2000

na m  
aeb  
17/9  
msf

I have written to  
HCI London and  
endorsed a copy to  
NAI  
HCI London response is awaited  
so (17/9)  
SPS

Copy sent to  
Dir (AD)





S No 1/FA)

10

REGISTERED WITH A/D.

**Pradyot Kumar Sengupta**, WBHS (Retd.)  
Ex-District & Sessions Judge, Ex-Principal Secretary to the  
Government of West Bengal, Judicial Department,  
Secretary  
**Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry**  
For inquiry into the alleged disappearance of  
**Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose**  
'B' Block (3<sup>rd</sup> floor), 11/A Mirza Ghalib Street,  
Calcutta 700 087

Res: IB 134, Salt Lake City (Sector III)  
Calcutta 700 091  
☎ 335-5714

Office ☎ : 033-216-2835, 2765/68  
Fax : 033-216-2765  
e-mail : jmcinscb@cal3.vsnl.net.in

D.O. NO. JMCI/Pub(N)/99-2000/56/235

Calcutta, dated the 29<sup>th</sup> August 2000

Dear Dr. Sarkar,

Kindly recall the discussions I had with you in your chamber as to how files numbering 700 available in the British Library in London could be studied and scrutinised in order to find out whether those files, which originated in the India Office's Public and Judicial Department in London, contain any material or information about Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and INA relevant to the points of the present inquiry.

I am directed to say that the Commission got information about those files from a letter dated 13.4.2000 of Sri Mainak De, Press & Publicity Affairs Adviser, British Deputy High Commission, Calcutta, addressed to Sri Anil Mukherjee, Deputy Speaker, Legislative Assembly, Calcutta. A copy of the letter is sent herewith for ready reference.

During the discussions in your chamber there was a suggestion that a joint team consisting of senior officials of the Commission and one or more competent officers of the National Archives of India might go to the British Library to study and examine the files. You were also good enough to tell me that the National Archives of India might do the needful for obtaining copies of relevant portions of those files, if necessary, after careful examination of the contents of the files.

I am directed to request you to kindly confirm the feasibility of such examination and scrutiny of the aforesaid files jointly by the Commission and the National Archives. As you have experience and expertise in this matter, I am directed to request you to render your valuable advice as to the procedure and modalities for undertaking the study of the files in British Library in London.

Further necessary action will be taken in this regard at this end on receiving your reply.

Expecting an early reply and with warm regards,

Yours sincerely,

(P.K. Sengupta)

Encl: As stated

Dr. Sukumar Sarkar  
Director General of Archives,  
National Archives of India  
Government of India  
Janpath  
New Delhi 110 001

W.C. way  
info to MEA  
CC PI.  
Put up.  
1 Aug  
31/8/2000



11



**British Deputy  
High Commission  
Calcutta**

13 April 2000

**Mr Anil Mukherjee  
Deputy Speaker  
Legislative Assembly  
Calcutta**

1, Ho Chi Minh Sarani  
Calcutta 700 071

Telephone: 288-3681 (D) 288-5172/6  
E-mail: Mainak.De@calcutta.mail.fco.gov.uk  
Fax: 288-3435

*Dear Mr Mukherjee,*

Thank you for your letter of 1 March to our Deputy High Commissioner, Dr John Mitchiner, regarding declassified records on Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

I had taken up the matter with the India Office Records, Oriental and India Office Collections, London. The records that have recently been released (in 1997) are a series of files which originated in the India Office's Public and Judicial Department in London. However, The files (which number 700) have not been published. The files themselves are available for consultation in the Reading Room. The files are public records and are open to researchers who are required to apply for a Reader's Pass from the British Library's Reader Admissions Office, 96 Euston Road, London NW1 2DB.

However, since the files have not been published the only way for accessing them will be through a personal visit to the India Office Records, Oriental and India Office Collections in London.

Thanking you,

Yours sincerely,

**MAINAK DE  
Press & Public Affairs Adviser**



12

Vani S.Rao  
Under Secretary (EW-I)

No. *47/125/4/2000-EW*

September 7, 2000

Kindly refer to our previous correspondence with the Mission regarding Parliament Questions pertaining to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. You would be aware that the Government of India have constituted the Justice Mukherji Commission of Inquiry to look into the alleged disappearance of Netaji. Shri P.K Sengupta, the Secretary of this Commission of Inquiry, has learnt from the British Deputy High Commission in Calcutta that nearly 700 files (which originated in the India Office Public and Judicial Department in London), released in 1997 are currently available for consultation in the Reading Room of India Office Records, Oriental and India Office Collections in London. Since these files have not yet been published, a team of officers from the National Archives of India and the Justice Mukherji Commission of Inquiry propose to visit U.K to examine these files. The National Archives of India has approached MEA for assistance in facilitating their visit to the Library and access to these files. Copies of correspondence are enclosed. Mission may kindly take this up with the necessary authorities. An early response would be appreciated.

*Issued  
R/S  
11/9/00*

Yours sincerely,

*Vani*

( Vani S.Rao )

**Shri Vikas Swarup**  
**Counsellor (Pol)**  
**High Commission of India**  
**London**

Copy for kind information to: Dr. Sukumar Sengupta, Director General of Archives, National Archives of India, Janpath, New Delhi

*Vani*

( Vani S.Rao )

*O/C*





6692/15(L2)10  
6/9  
D.O.No. F. 25-2(9)/2000.CC.

राष्ट्रीय अभिलेखागार  
भारत सरकार  
जनपथ, नई दिल्ली - ११० ००१

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA  
JANPATH, NEW DELHI - 110 001

Tele No. 3383436  
Fax : 0091- 11- 3384127  
E mail : archives@ren02.nic.in  
Website : http://nationalarchives.nic.in

Dated the 05 SEP 2000

DR. SUKUMAR SARKAR  
Director General of Archives  
Government of India

Dear Ms. Mukherji,

You may be aware that Government of India have constituted the Justice Mukherji Commission of Inquiry to investigate the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. We have received a reference from Sh. P.K. Sengupta, Secretary of the Commission, who visited National Archives of India, some time back, informing that there are about 700 files which have been recently thrown open for access to the scholars and some of them relating to Netaji are available in the British Library, London (copy of the letter along with a copy of letter from British High Commission, Calcutta are enclosed for ready reference). These files originated in the India Office's Public and Judicial Department in London and contain material relevant to the points of the present inquiry.

For facilitating the work of the Commission, it has been suggested that a team of officials from the National Archives of India and the Justice Mukherji Commission of Inquiry may visit London and examine the files available in the British Library.

I shall appreciate if you could request our Mission in London to take up the matter with the authorities of the British Library so as to enable us to work out the modalities and approach the Government of India for the approval of the proposed visit by a team of officials to London.

With good wishes,

Yours sincerely,

  
( S. Sarkar )

4.9.2000

On 1/9/00  
Pl write  
to NCI, London  
RSG  
7/9  
ms.  
Ms. Bhaswati Mukherji,  
Joint Secretary,  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
South Block,  
New Delhi.

Has been done  
Reply awaited.

10/9/00

SO (FWD)  
SPK





S No 1/FA)

14

REGISTERED WITH A/D.

**Pradyot Kumar Sengupta**, WBHJS (Retd.)  
Ex-District & Sessions Judge, Ex-Principal Secretary to the  
Government of West Bengal, Judicial Department,  
Secretary

**Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry**  
For inquiry into the alleged disappearance of  
**Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose**  
'B' Block (3<sup>rd</sup> floor), 11/A Mirza Ghalib Street,  
Calcutta 700 087

Res: IB 134, Salt Lake City (Sector III)  
Calcutta 700 091  
☎ 335-5714

Office ☎ : 033-216-2835, 2765/68  
Fax : 033-216-2765  
e-mail : jmcinscb@cal3.vsnl.net.in

D.O. NO. JMCI/Pub(N)/99-2000/56/235

Calcutta, dated the 29<sup>th</sup> August 2000Dear *S. Sarkar*,

Kindly recall the discussions I had with you in your chamber as to how files numbering 700 available in the British Library in London could be studied and scrutinised in order to find out whether those files, which originated in the India Office's Public and Judicial Department in London, contain any material or information about Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and INA relevant to the points of the present inquiry.

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Expecting an early reply and with warm regards,

Yours sincerely,

*P. K. Sengupta*  
(P.K. Sengupta)

Enclo: As stated

Dr. Sukumar Sarkar  
Director General of Archives,  
National Archives of India  
Government of India  
Janpath  
New Delhi 110 001

We may  
refer to MEA.  
CC pl.  
put up.

1 Aug  
31/8/2000



15



**British Deputy  
High Commission  
Calcutta**

1, Ho Chi Minh Sarani  
Calcutta 700 071

Telephone: 288-3681 (D) 288-5172/6  
E-mail: Mainak.De@calcutta.mail.fco.gov.uk  
Fax: 288-3435

13 April 2000

**Mr Anil Mukherjee  
Deputy Speaker  
Legislative Assembly  
Calcutta**

*Dear Mr Mukherjee,*

Thank you for your letter of 1 March to our Deputy High Commissioner, Dr John Mitchiner, regarding declassified records on Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

I had taken up the matter with the India Office Records, Oriental and India Office Collections, London. The records that have recently been released (in 1997) are a series of files which originated in the India Office's Public and Judicial Department in London. However, The files (which number 700) have not been published. The files themselves are available for consultation in the Reading Room. The files are public records and are open to researchers who are required to apply for a Reader's Pass from the British Library's Reader Admissions Office, 96 Euston Road, London NW1 2DB.

However, since the files have not been published the only way for accessing them will be through a personal visit to the India Office Records, Oriental and India Office Collections in London.

Thanking you,

Yours sincerely,

**MAINAK DE  
Press & Public Affairs Adviser**





4558/65799  
& 16

(18)

भारत सरकार  
विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

**B.S. Bishnoi,  
Director (EW)  
Tel & Fax No 3794145**

New Delhi the.....19

No. WI/ 1471/DIR(EW)/99

May 18, 1999

Dear Smt. Gairola,

Enclosed is a copy of a letter dated 19 April 1999 received from the National Archives regarding documents relating to the death of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

*B.S. Bishnoi*

(B.S. Bishnoi)

*o/c*

Smt. S. Gairola,  
Joint Secretary,  
Ministry of Home Affairs,  
New Delhi.

*24/3/0*

*80 (P)*

*Sm P.S.*



F.No.33-1/99.P.A.  
National Archives of India  
Government of India,  
Janpath, New Delhi-110001

19 APR 1999

(12)

By Special Messenger

Most Immediate

Parliament Question

To

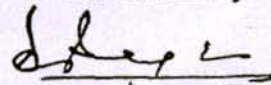
Shri B.S. Bishnoi,  
Director(EW)  
Ministry of External Affairs, South Block,  
New Delhi.  
Fax No.-3794145

Subject:- Rajya Sabha Provisionally starred Question Dy.No.008171  
for answer on 29th April, 1999— Documents relating  
to the death of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

Sir,

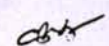
I am to refer to the Ministry of External Affairs letter  
No.W1 dated 16th April 1999 and forward herewith parawise reply.

Yours faithfully,



( S.M.R. BAQAR )

Deputy Director of Archives,  
Government of India



Encls:-I



Rajya Sabha Provisionally starred Question Dy. No. 008171 for answer on 29th April, 1999 regarding documents relating to the death of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose by Kamendu Bhattacharjee.

Question

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the name of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose still figure in the list of War Criminals maintained by the British Government.
- (b) If so, whether Government propose to approach the British Government for removal of the name of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose from the list, and
- (c) Whether Government propose to acquire and make public all the documents relating to the death of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and the details thereof.

Answer

No comments to offer. Since no records available in National Archives of India.

Matter does not pertain to National Archives of India in view of 'a' above.

National Archives of India is not in a position to offer any comments in this regards. Ministry of Defence, Government of India had downgraded 990 folders containing I.N.A. Papers transferred to National Archives of India on 26th August, 1997 which are open for consultation by the bonafide research scholars in Research Room, National Archives of India.



Note for the supplementaries on Rajya Sabha starred Q.No.-008171 which will be put down for sitting on 29th April,1999.

National Archives of India has acquired 14 microfilm rolls from U.K. & Germany on Subhas Chandra Bose under Cultural Exchange Programme.

46 Photo copies of Subhas Chandra Bose Papers were received through Department of Culture on 15.5.91 from U.S.S.R.

On 26th August, 1997, 990 items/files of I.N.A. papers were transferred by the Ministry of Defence, Government of India. These declassified papers include formation of the Indian National Army, platoon lecture, Radio Broad casts, speeches by Subhas Chandra Bose and other members of I.N.A. awarded of medals/Badges, in addition to various other activities of the I.N.A.; the formation of the all women Janshi Regiment, their rigorous training with rare photographs like guard of honour received by Netaji, detailed worked plan of the provisional Government; its functioning, allocation of Port follio etc. The most interesting part is about the trial of I.N.A. Soldiers in the Red Fort and related papers highlighting the activities and British Policy repression. Few copies of pages from File Nos. 249 I.N.A. & 282 I.N.A. having reference about the death of Shri Subhas Chandra Bose may kindly be seen at flag 'A' 'B'. —

The entire material stated above, i.e. microfilms, photo copies of papers of Subhas Chandra Bose and I.N.A. papers are open for consultation to bonafide Researchers. National Archives of India is extending full facilities to the Research Scholars in this regard.



Historical Section  
Ministry of Defence

249

(20)

I.N.A.

~~SECRET~~

11

249/INA

Subject: — Information on S.C. Base  
(G.H.R. Case)

POT

Historical Section  
Ministry of Defence



(2)

STATEMENT OF YOSHIMI TANEYOSHI, CAPTAIN (MEDICAL) OF THE  
IMPERIAL JAPANESE ARMY, WITH REGARD TO THE DEATH OF ONE  
CHANDRA BOSE, WHO DIED AT TAIHOKU, FORMOSA, ON  
18TH DAY OF AUGUST, 1945.

.....

I, TANEYOSHI YOSHIMI, Captain (Medical) of the Imperial Japanese Army, at present at Stanley Gaol, Hong Kong, having observed a statement in a Japanese newspaper, requesting information regarding the death of Chandra Bose, wish of my own free will to place any knowledge I have of this matter at the disposal of the authorities requiring it. To the best of my ability and memory I here state the events surrounding the death of Chandra Bose.

In August, 1945, I was the Senior Officer at the NAMJON Military Hospital, Taihoku, Formosa. At about 1700 hrs on the 18th day of August, 1945, a truck driven up before the hospital contained several men who had been injured in an aeroplane crash. Two of the men were Indians, and the remainder, about five or six in number were Japanese. One of the Japanese, a Staff Officer with the rank of Lt-Colonel whose name I cannot properly recall, but believe was Ishii-something, informed me that one of the Indians, pointing him out, was Chandra Bose and that I was not to spare myself and must give him the very best of treatment. I immediately gave instructions for some medical orderlies to go prepare a bed, and for others to carry in the injured man.

When he was laid on the bed, I personally cleaned his injuries with oils and dressed them. He was suffering from extensive burns over the whole of his body, though the most serious were those on his head, chest and thighs. There was very little left on his head in the way of hair or other identification marks. During the first four hours he was semi-conscious, and practically normal, speaking quite a good deal. The first words I remember him speaking were in Japanese, when he made a request for water, which had to be fed to him through a hospital cup with a spout. As most of his speaking was in English, a request for an interpreter



was made, and one was sent from the Civil Government Office named KAMURA. He informed me that he had very often interpreted for Chandra Bose and had had many conversations with him. He appeared to have no doubt that the man he was speaking with was Chandra Bose. During the treating of his injuries, I twice inquired of Chandra Bose if he was in any pain, and neither time did he make an answer. After about four hours. I inquired whether there was any statement, will, or such matter he wished to make. He answered 'Nothing'. After the fourth hour he appeared to be sinking into unconsciousness. He murmured, and muttered in his state of coma, but never regained consciousness. At about 2300 hours he died. There was apart from the injuries mentioned above, abrasions on his elbows and knees. There were no fractures.

The other Indian was Chandra Bose's Adjutant, a Colonel of the Indian National Army, who was suffering from burns to the sides of his head, arms, hands and knees. I do not remember this mans name, but recall that it was a very long one. He was a very tall man, about six feet or over, medium build, and clean shaven.

It was the wish of this Colonel, and also that of the authorities that the remains of Chandra Bose should be transported to Tokyo, and to facilitate this I injected Formalin into the body, and also had the coffin partly filled with lime. The whole was put in a box, and on the 20th August, was taken to Taihoku airport for transporting to Japan, in charge of Warrant Officer NISHI. W.O. Nishi returned later and informed me that the body for some unknown reason, could not be taken to Japan, and was to be sent to the crematorium for cremation. I therefore made out a death certificate, stating the causes of death to be extensive burning and shock. The orders for this change of plan came from the Adjutant's Dept, Taiwan Army.



On the morning of the 19th August, Colonel Miyata, Staff Officer of General Ando came to the hospital to express mourning on behalf of General Ando and his staff, and as is our custom brought gifts of flowers, fruits and cakes for the deceased. The news of the death of Chandra Bose was kept a secret, and I and my staff were warned not to divulge that we knew who it was that had died. The news was as far as I can remember published in the public press early in the month of September, 1945.

Of the other passengers of the aircraft I have some direct and some information which was told to me. As far as I could make out, the aircraft, carrying Chandra Bose his Adjutant and about ten or twelve others (Japanese), took off from the Taihoku Air Port, and after rising to a height of thirty feet, suddenly burst into flames and crashed to the ground. A Major General SHIDEI and two others were killed, or unable to escape and were burned with the plane. The others escaped or were rescued, and were brought to Nanmon hospital. The two pilots, Warrant Officer (later 2/Lt) AOYAGI and a Sergeant Major., were both burned, but after remaining in my care for about two or three weeks had practically recovered and were transferred to the Hokuto Military Hospital where I later heard they had died, about three weeks after admittance.

The Indian Colonel, Adjutant to Chandra Bose, remained in my care for about 10 days, and was then sent to the Hokuto Military Hospital. The interpreter Nakamura went up there with him, and I have no knowledge of what became of ~~xxxx~~ either of them. I do know however that the ashes of Chandra Bose were handed over to the Indian Colonel.

There is nothing more I can remember of this matter, at the present, but will give thought to it, and anything of importance I later remember I will disclose.

Signed at Stanley Gaol, this 19th Day of October, 1946.

Name in Block Letters. YOSHIMI TANEYOSHI.



(24)

CERTIFICATE OF INTERPRETER.

I, HANAGAKI YOSHIO, State that I truly and correctly translated the above statement made by YOSHIMI TANEYOSHI, into English, and saw it taken down by Captain A.R. Turner. I later read over the whole of the above statement in the Japanese language, and YOSHIMI TANEYOSHI agreed and then signed the above statement, in the presence of myself and Captain A.R. Turner.

Signed at Stanley Gaol, this 19th Day of October, 1946.

.....

Name in Block Letters. HANAGAKI YOSHIO.

I, ALFRED RAYMOND TURNER, took the above statement of YOSHIMI TANEYOSHI, with regard to the death of Chandra Bose, and the Certificate of the Interpreter HANAGAKI YOSHIO at Stanley Gaol, this 19th Day of October, 1946, duly witnessing their signatures.

.....Captain  
A.R. TURNER.

War Crimes Liaison Section (Formosa).

Hong Kong,  
19th Oct. 1946.



23

18 Aug 45

On his right chest he wore a League HQ badge and also the I.N.A. tricolour badge. As far as Bl269 is aware, Bose was not wearing a wristlet watch, although Bl269 cannot say whether he carried one in his pocket. Bl269 knows nothing about the watch which Bose is alleged to have given Bhonsle (Bl189).

Note:- Major Bhonsle possesses a gold watch and chain which he stated was given to him by Bose at Bangkok on 17 Aug 45.

Bl269 insists that, as far as he was aware, it was Bose's intention to return from Tokyo as soon as he had completed his business there.

## 22. THE CRASH

18 Aug 45

At about 1400 hrs the bomber reached Taihoku (Formosa) airfield where it refuelled and the passengers had lunch. No Indian was there to meet them and neither did Bose interview anyone there. While having lunch Bose mentioned casually to Bl269 in Hindustani, that he hoped the Japanese would make arrangements for the rest of the party to come in time, and not disappoint them, as they had done previously at the time of his return from Tokyo. After a stay of about half an hour at the airfield, the bomber took off again. Before Bl269 and Bose entered the plane, the engine had been started and the crew were all in their places. About 5 minutes after taking off, and when the plane had reached an altitude of about 300 ft, Bl269 heard a very loud noise which resembled cannon fire coming from the direction of the nose of the plane. Bl269 thought at the time that the plane had been attacked. The aircraft appeared to lose flying speed and crashed almost immediately afterwards, hitting the ground on its nose. The engines as well as the rear of the plane were on fire. Bl269 saw Bose attempting to move towards the rear of the plane, but on Bl269's suggestion, Bose changed his course and moved towards the front. The celluloid cover above the pilot's position had burst open.

Some of the Japanese passengers reached the aperture before Bl269 and Bose, and crawling through it, dropped to the ground. The aperture was open to the left side of the plane. Bose then crawled through and was followed by Bl269. In doing so the flames were coming from the front and Bl269's face was burned on the right side (Bl269 carries obvious marks of recent burning and scorching on the whole right side of his face). Alighting on the ground and collecting his wits, Bl269 noticed Bose in a standing position about 12 yards away with smoke coming from his garments. Bose was endeavouring to remove his clothes. Bl269's clothes were not on fire. Bl269 rushed towards Bose to help him and finally succeeded in beating out the flames. In doing so, Bl269 received severe burns on both his hands (his hands are still bleached and scarred).

Bose had sustained serious burns all over his body and when he was laid on the ground Bl269 noticed 2 or 3 fractures on the skull. Bose lay for a while on the ground quiet with eyes closed.



18 Aug 45

His last words were in Hindustani " I feel that I shall die. I have fought for Indian Independence until the last. Tell my countrymen, India will be free before long. Long live Independent India". Bl269 had seen only one Japanese (probably a Capt) sitting on a boulder near the plane with bleeding injuries on his head. Besides burns on the hands, Bl269's face was slightly burnt on the right side, and he also received two minor wounds on the head and one lacerated wound on the right leg below the knee.

Note 1: Bl269 bears marks of burns on the face and on both hands, two slight scars on the head and one mark of an injury on the right leg below the knee.

Note 2: When asked to explain why S.C. Bose was badly burned and he himself was not, Bl269 stated that Bose's clothes may have been drenched in petrol, as Bose sat under a petrol tank in the plane. Bose's clothes were of light weight K.D. Bl269 wore knee-boots, serge breeches and a serge tunic: his clothes were not burned at all (he wears them now at CSDIC(I)).

Within 10 minutes, a First Aid party arrived in lorries, and Bose and Bl269 were removed in one of the lorries to the Army Hospital a short distance from the scene of accident. Among others injured who came to the hospital (some before Bl269 and others after) were a pilot, a Lt Col, a Major and Lt or Capt. Bl269 later heard that Gen SHEDAI, the wireless operator, one of the members of the air crew and the Japanese Air Force officer had died. The Japanese Gen had been killed instantaneously. Bl269 remained with Bose from the time of the crash until the death of Bose at about 2100 hrs that night Tokyo Time. Bose was treated for his burns and several injections were administered by 3 or 4 Japanese doctors who attended him. Bl269 does not know the names of the hospital staff. Whilst in hospital Bose regained consciousness from time to time and uttered a few words, sometimes asking for water and sometimes suggesting that he be given injections. Some Japanese military officers came to the hospital and made enquiries from time to time about Bose's condition. When the doctors announced Bose's death to these officers, Bl269 requested them to send news to Bangkok and Singapore about the accident. Bose's body was kept in the room where he died, and Bl269 remained there all the night together with Japanese guards and some patients. Bl269 states that he did not keep any souvenirs, as none was available on the person of Bose after the accident-all their luggage having been burnt on the plane.

19 Aug 45

Bose's body remained in hospital all that day and night. The Japanese Staff Colonel visited Bl269 who requested him to make arrangements for the dead body to be taken to Singapore. Bl269 was told that arrangements were being made as requested for the corpse to be taken in a transport plane.



20 Aug 45

A coffin made of sandal wood was brought to the hospital and Bose's body was placed therein.

21 Aug 45

B1269 was informed that as the coffin was too large, it was not possible to transport it by plane, and the idea had therefore to be dropped. B1269 then suggested that the body be cremated as the Japanese had said they were unable to preserve it.

After the Japanese had signified their consent to this proposal, two photographs of Bose were taken, one with the body fully covered inside the coffin, and the other with the lid of the coffin closed and B1269 seated by its side. Fruit and incense were placed on the coffin in accordance with Japanese custom.

22 Aug 45

At about 1000 hrs Bose's body was removed to a crematorium where a Japanese cleric who spoke excellent English, performed a religious ceremony. After this, Bose's body was taken out of the coffin and placed in a furnace. The door of the furnace was locked and the key was kept by a Japanese military officer. B1269 had declined to take charge of the key as he was at the time running a temperature and was in a very depressed state of mind. The body was then set alight by the cleric's assistant. At the cremation there were about 30 Japanese medical and military officers present. B1269 does not recollect any of their names. B1269 states that he was the only Indian present at the time. About half an hour after the body had been set alight, B1269 left the crematorium with the others.

23 Aug 45

B1269 in the company of the cleric and a Staff Major and 3 or 4 other Japanese visited the crematorium, when the ashes of Bose were collected and placed in a wooden box specially made for the purpose. B1269 was shown a small piece of gold among the ashes which he believes was part of one of Bose's gold teeth. The box containing the ashes was then taken to a Japanese temple in the city, where a religious ceremony was again performed by the cleric. At this temple one of the military officers pointed to another box and told B1269 that it contained the ashes of the Japanese Gen, whom he said had also died as the result of the air crash.

28 Aug 45

B1269 was removed to Hokoto hospital, a distance of about 12 miles from Taihoku. While there, B1269 requested the Japanese authorities to send him back to either Bangkok or Singapore.

3 Sep 45

B1269 was told that a plane would be leaving for Tokyo on the following day, and that he could avail himself of this chance and take with him the ashes of Bose to Tokyo.



28

4 Sep 45

Bl269 returned to Taihoku and boarded the plane which carried 4 other Japanese passengers including Lt Col SAKAMAKI and 3 civilians whose names were not known to Bl269. Bl269 was told that the crash on 18 Aug 45 was due to one of the airscrews being damaged when the plane was taking off. Bl269 carried with him the wooden box containing the ashes of Bose, the two photographs of Bose taken on the 21st Aug 45, three photographs of the wrecked plane and a rectangular wrist gold watch with a leather strap.

Note 1: Bl269 explains that this watch was made over to him on 28 Aug 45 by one of the Japanese MOs who had attended Bose at the Taihoku hospital. It may be remarked here, that this watch has since found its way to S.C. Bose's brother Sarat Chandra Bose in Calcutta, and that Bl269 admits that two days after his arrival at Delhi he secretly gave this watch to Capt Shah Niwaz (Bl046).

Note 2: Bl269 states that no photograph of Bose's dead face was taken as the face was badly burned and made grotesque by the ointments etc which had been applied to his skin by the Japanese doctors.

24. AT TOKYO

8/K  
1.73  
4 Sep 45

On arrival at Fukuoka aerodrome Bl269 was taken to a Japanese hotel where he spent the night.

5 Sep 45

Left Fukuoka by plane about noon and reached an aerodrome (name not known) at 1500 hrs. At Fukuoka Lt Col SAKAMAKI separated from Bl269, as he stated he intended to travel by train from there to Tokyo. Before parting, SAKAMAKI took charge of the box containing the ashes of Bose as both hands of Bl269 were bandaged as a result of burns.

6 Sep 45

From the aerodrome on the mainland (name not known) Bl269 reached Tokyo by train, where he was met at the railway station by a young Japanese Officer. From the railway station Bl269 was taken to the house of one of his fellow Japanese passengers, and later that evening moved to the house of Rammurti, the Chairman of the I.I.L. Tokyo. Bl269 explained to Rammurti in the presence of Mrs. Rammurti (a Japanese) and 2 or 3 Indian students who were training in the Tokyo Military Academy, the circumstances of Bose's death. Shortly before Bl269 arrived in Rammurti's house, the box containing the ashes of Bose had reached there. That night Bl269 shifted to the house of Mrs. Sahai where he again met S.A. Iyer, who explained that he (Iyer) had left Saigon on the 19 or 20 Aug alone, as plane accommodation could not be arranged for the rest of Bose's party.



(29)

Note:- B1269 is unable to give any information regarding the subsequent movements of the following 4 men who were left behind in Saigon:-

- (1) Capt (Col) Gulzara Singh
- (2) Capt (Maj) Pritam Singh
- (3) Deb Nath Das
- (4) Civ (Col) Hassan

While in the house of Mrs Sahai several Indian students of the Military Academy (whose names B1269 does not recollect) and also Rammurti visited B1269. The same Japanese Military officer who met B1269 at Tokyo Railway Station, questioned B1269 in detail regarding the accident at Taihoku. This same officer also took charge of the two photographs of Bose in a coffin, which B1269 had up to then been carrying with him. B1269 states that these photographs had been shown by him to Rammurti, Mrs Sahai and S.A. Iyer.

9 Sep 45 B1269 shifted to another house where he was joined two days later by S.A. Iyer. B1269 while living in this house with Iyer was once interrogated by an American officer and by Lt Col Figgess. (An Indian Army officer on the British Section attached to Gen MacArthur's HQ). B1269 states that both he and S.A. Iyer visited Atami, Nikko, Hakone and Ikao all small towns on the main island for health and recreation purposes. There were no Indians living at these places, and B1269 disclaims that he or Iyer went to these places on any kind of mission.

19 Nov 45 B1269 left for Delhi by air in the company of FUJIWARA, SYADA and MATSUMOTO.

## 25. ARRIVAL AT DELHI

22 Nov 45 Arrived Delhi at 2000 hrs. When he reached the Red Fort with Iyer and the other Japanese officers who travelled with him from Tokyo, he was accommodated with them in the camp of HQ Jumna Area under whose requisition the party had been flown from Japan.

24 Nov 45 At 1000 hrs B1269 met Shah Nawaz (B1048) Gurbaksh Singh Dhillon (B1062), Saihgal (B968) and also Mr Bhulabhai Desai and other Defence Counsellors, and narrated to them the circumstances of the accident which resulted in the death of Bose.

27 Nov 45 B1269 was taken over by CSDIC(I), with permission of HQ Jumna Area.



No. 63/2/34/ GSI(b)

Headquarters,  
SACSEA Commission No. 1  
SAIGON? South East Asia Command.  
6 Nov '45.

To: HQ. SACSEA,  
GHQ (I) (for Combined Section M.I.Dte)  
HQ. ALF SIAM  
HQ. 14 Army.  
HQ. 20 Div.

Subject:- SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE.

The following information has been elicited from the conversations with the Staff Officers of the Japanese Army HQ. Saigon :-

1. In December 1944, SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE suggested that it would be expedient for the Japanese Govt. to come to terms with CHIANG-KAI-SHEK and further seek friendship with Russia. BOSE's theory was that CHINA would only too gladly accept a suggestion which would extract her from the convulsions of a long and weary war. In regard to Russia, he explained that he was convinced that the Russian alliance with GREAT BRITAIN and AMERICA was brought about by force of circumstances and that with the completion of German defeat, Russia will repudiate her present mask of friendship and will openly revert to her well known hostile status towards GREAT BRITAIN and U.S.A.
2. The Japs were in favour of such a move as they realised that their defeat was inevitable unless a paramount political event of this nature occurred. But they were doubtful if BOSE was capable of procuring this new tripartite alliance. The Japanese therefore rejected this offer and conventionally reiterated their belief in their eventual victory as they intended to produce a large scale counter-attack which would turn the tide of war in their favour.

There are indications that the Japanese Govt. evinced a keen interest when BOSE put forth these suggestions and in fact plausible as these looked to them; it was in this connection that BOSE visited TOKYO on Dec 44. But his preliminary effort to explore the possibilities for such a peace did not prove encouraging and hence the Japanese rejections of the proposals.

3. In June, 1945 while in SINGAPORE, SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE, foreseeing that the defeat of the Japanese was a matter of time only requested the Japs for permission to move his provisional Govt. and a part of the I.N.A. to JAPAN proper or CHINA. Southern Army, HQ passed this in turn to TOKYO. It is said that Lt. General SHIDEI, Vice Chief of Staff, Southern Army HQ. opposed this permission on the ground that without BOSE the I.N.A. in MALAYA and SIAM will not only disintegrate but become an administrative embarrassment at a juncture when it was least desired.
4. Again in July as the situation was ~~passed~~ fast deteriorating for the Japanese, BOSE sought permission, this time to enter U.S.S.R. via MANCHURIA with a few selected members of his movement. No formal reply was made to this but BOSE was advised to proceed to



to proceed to TOKYO in view of his request. Col. YANO Chief of the 2nd Sec. Southern Army HQ, has been interrogated at some length on this point. He is emphatic that the Japanese decision to "respect BOSE's views" does not denote that the Japanese Govt. had sought or received willingness from the Russians to accept BOSE to go underground in their country.

On the contrary, he believes that the Japanese Govt was then approaching RUSSIA to sue for peace and could not at this stage allow any complication which must have arisen from BOSE's admission.

5. In the absence of any specific answer from TOKYO, BOSE intended to give himself up to Chinese or American forces, if on his arrival in TOKYO, the Japanese Govt. did not permit him to enter Soviet Russia. But the fact remains that from SAIGON, BOSE actually travelled in a plane which was taking Lt. Gen. SHIBUI to MANCHURIA via JAPAN where the latter had been posted after the surrender. Another source contends that there was no need for the Japanese to ask the Russians for BOSE's entry because BOSE wanted to go to MANCHURIA from where he thought he would be able to get in touch with the Russian forces and obtain necessary admission independently.

6. It was in view of this that S.C. BOSE had left SINGAPORE on 16 Aug. On his way, he stopped at BANGKOK where he took a formal farewell of everybody. He arrived in SAIGON at 1200 hrs on 17 Aug. 15. Lt. Gen. ISODA had come from BANGKOK to bid BOSE farewell and the former returned after two or three days.

7. After the accident at TAIHOKU on 18 Aug BOSE and HABIB-IN-REIMAN were admitted into Military hospital where BOSE died the same night.

HABIB-IN-REIMAN after his recovery left for TOKYO on 5 Sep 45 with ashes of BOSE. Formosan Army informs that HABIB-IN-REIMAN took with him a package containing photographs taken at the time of BOSE's death and also the jewellery that BOSE was carrying with him.

8. It is generally recognised here that SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE had actually died. Also it is beyond doubt that he had ~~planned~~ plans to go underground together with a number of selected friends of his movement. There is nothing further by way of details or documentary evidence that can be obtained from Southern Army HQ. In the absence of substantial proof, it is still difficult to state conclusively the fate of BOSE but the belief that he is dead is growing stronger and widespread.

Further investigations are being conducted on the following lines :

- (a) Allied HQ TOKYO has been requested to fly Staff Officer TADA to SAIGON for examination.
- (b) Interrogation Report on "Col" HABIB-IN-REIMAN is on the way to this H.Q. and the details of it will be checked at this end.
- (c) The photographs will probably furnish best proof of his death.



THE LAST MOMENTS OF S.C. BOSE.

(Apr - Aug 45).

S.C. Bose and his party leaving Rangoon on 24 Apr 45 reached Bangkok on 14 May. The party, at the time of leaving Rangoon, had in its possession gold, gold ornaments and diamonds contained in 4 boxes of varying sizes ranging between 9"x 9"x 4" and 6"x 4"x 2". An additional quantity of gold was purchased on the way at Moulmein to the extent of Rs.700,000 drawn by S.C. Bose from Yokohama Specie Bank, Moulmein Branch.

While at Bangkok several meetings of the Cabinet Ministers of the PGI were held between 18 May to 14 Jun, the object of which was to decide as to the future course of action so far as the existence of the PGI was concerned. No decision could be arrived at as S.C. Bose had to leave for Singapore in order to carry out his propaganda over the radio against the acceptance of "Havell Proposal". In course of these meetings Lt. Col. (Maj-Gen) Chatterjee suggested that a nucleus of the PGI should be shifted to Yunnan Province in order to contact the Communists who had more influence in that part of China, and through their help to contact the Soviet authorities in Siberia. At the same time it was thought desirable to leave behind certain Cabinet Ministers and high ranking I.N.A. officers to carry on the fight with HQ at Bangkok and Singapore. The following were the officers present in these meetings :-

- (1) S.C. Bose
- (2) Lt.Col (Maj-Gen) Bhonsle
- (3) " " " " Chatterjee
- (4) " " " " Kiani
- (5) Capt (Col) Gulzara Singh
- (6) Iyer
- (7) A.M. Sahai
- (8) A.N. Sarkar
- (9) Isar Singh - Gen. Secretary IIL Bangkok.
- (10) Paramanand
- (11) D.M. Khan
- (12) Deb Nath Das
- (13) Karim Ghani (also attended the last meeting).

After the 2nd meeting (exact dates not remembered) Kiani left for Singapore to arrange accommodation for the Rani of Khansi girls numbering about 120 who were at that time at Bangkok. At about the same time Chatterjee, Iyer and A.M. Sahai left for Saigon - Chatterjee to establish the site for the PGI, Iyer for broadcasting work and Sahai on a special mission at Hanoi not known to B1189.

On 16 Aug 45 S.C. Bose came to Bangkok by a special Jap bomber chartered for him, accompanied by Iyer, Capt (Col) Habib ur Rahman and Capt (Lt.Col) Pritam Singh. On 17 Aug 0700 hrs (Tokyo Time) Bose left Bangkok for Saigon accompanied by the following additional personnel of the PGI and I.N.A. :-

- (1) Gulzara Singh
- (2) "Maj" Hassan
- (3) Deb Nath Das

Lt.Gen. ISODA and two other H. Kikan personnel accompanied Bose and the party in a separate aircraft.



According to B1189's information received from H. Kikan and other sources, Bose and the parties reached Saigon on the same day (17 Aug). On the following day (18 Aug) S.C. Bose accompanied by Capt (Col) Habib ur Rahman left for Tokyo in a plane originally meant for the conveyance of some high ranking officials of Mori Butai as placing of the special bomber at his disposal was no longer possible. The rest of Bose's party remained behind at Saigon where at that time Chatterjee and Sahai were also staying. ISODA who happened to be present at the Saigon aerodrome to see the party off, said that Bose took his seat in the passage of aircraft between the pilot and the tail and as such could not be seen to wave goodbye when the plane took off. According to the estimation of B1189, the remainder of the party at Saigon named above might have moved into any of the following places, as these were the names of the places suggested by various members in the Cabinet meetings mentioned before :-

- (1) Yunan Province
- (2) Hanoi
- (3) Shanghai
- (4) Harbin (Pinkyang)

In course of talk with ISODA on 21 Aug 45 B1189 heard that the plane carrying Bose and the party landed at Taihoku (Formosa) at 1300 hrs (Tokyo Time) on 18th, and after about an hour's halt was taking off at 1400 hrs when the right engine failed resulting in the crash of the plane. The crew and the Chief of Staff Mori Butai were killed instantaneously, and Bose with Habib ur Rahman and 4 other Japanese officials were seriously injured. Bose and the other injured persons were removed to an eye hospital at Taihoku where he died at 2400 hrs on the night of 18/19 Aug 45 without regaining consciousness. No information about Habib ur Rahman could be obtained owing to restrictions put by the Allies on Jap communication. B1189 requested ISODA to keep photographs of Bose's funeral and other rites as well as his remains. No photographs or further information was received by B1189.

B1189 does not know whether Chatterjee ever met any of the nationalist Annamite leaders in course of his movements in French Indo-China. About Annamite leaders B1189 only knows that S.C. Bose on his way to Tokyo in Dec 43 was prevented by the Japanese from meeting some of them who were eager to meet him (S.C. Bose) at Saigon.

B1189 has no direct information regarding the gold mentioned above. His own impression is, that a major portion of the gold was taken by S.C. Bose while the remainder was left with the rest of his party.

\*\*\*\*\*



L. A. F. Z-2908

20/Mise/104

282/1.14.A

**DIRECTORATE**

FRANCH

## LECTION

**Main Head.**

Sub-Head.

**SUBJECT :-**

How did Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose go to Japan from India.

### Connected Tiles :—

**TRANSIT RECORD.**

This record must be completed in INK by the officer signing the minute and the previous entry.  
~~Cancelled in INK by a horizontal line.~~

NOT TO BE COMPLETED UNTIL THE MINUTE HAS BEEN SIGNED.

To whom sent.	Date.	To whom sent.	Date.	To whom sent.	Date.
<p>Downgraded to unclassified</p> <p>12/2/97</p>					



The North-West Frontier Province has very often in the past proved important in Indian History. Several times has the famous British Army suffered defeat at the hands of the hill tribes who inhabit the country. But today a little incident has brought this Province once again in the limelight. This is due to its connection with the disappearance of Subhas Chandra Bose from his house in Calcutta.

Mr. R.V. Karanjia, the representative of a Newspaper, who is touring the country, has published the following story. In this he appears to have used information from documents with the Government of India. The whole world considers Subhas Chandra Bose's escape from India as one of the greatest riddles of World War II.

Mr. Karanjia describes the N.W.F.P. as a beautiful but dangerous country. Many of the links in the route for S.C. Bose's escape from India in 1939 are to be found in this Province. He says that in spite of the time that has elapsed since the incident, he is able to obtain and send information of this mysterious incident.

First to Russia and then to Germany. Current public opinion on S.C. Bose's escape is that he sailed for Japan in a Japanese ship from the Bay of Bengal. This is incorrect. S.C. Bose went first to Kabul via Peshawar, through the Khyber Pass and then went to Russia and Germany. The Indian Frontier can be crossed only at two points in the N.W.F.P. One route enters Afghanistan and the other leads to Russia. Two methods are open for doing this: to obtain permission from the British authorities or to bribe a passage from the hill tribes. In the latter case the hill tribes guarantee safe escort across the frontier on money being paid.

Naturally S.C. Bose employed the second means. Evidence of S.C. Bose of having been last seen in this locality is available at Sub Kadar a hill outpost. Subhas Chandra Bose's disappearance came to the notice of the secret police a month after his escape when enquiries were initiated. This month's interval afforded S.C. Bose sufficient ~~time~~ time to make ~~xxxx~~ complete arrangements for leaving India.



It is still not understood how Russia, which conducted persistent propaganda against him, helped Bose to get to Berlin. But it must be remembered that in 1941, Stalin was not Hitler's enemy but his ally. For this reason alone he must have helped Subhas Chandra Bose to get to Berlin.

Today as the relations between Russia and the Western countries are strained, it is also possible that Russia, after the defeat of Japan has given sanctuary to S.C. Bose who dis-regarding his personal safety has pledged to gain India's independence.

It is said in some quarters that he was killed in a plane crash and there are also people who say that they have witnessed the incident. It is difficult to refute this.

Shri Narayan, the War Correspondent of the "Hindu" who is on a Far-Eastern tour at present, reports that reliable evidence to substantiate S.C. Bose's death in a plane crash is not available.

The arrival recently in Bengal of S.C. Bose's alleged remains and the bringing of the charred leather wrist watch strap cannot be taken as conclusive proof of his death.

Some months ago also, the Japanese Propaganda Department had announced a plane crash in which S.C. Bose was supposed to have been killed. It is just possible that in this case also the news of his death may be untrue.

The bringing of S.C. Bose's remains to Bengal and the findings of his wrist-watch strap are certainly dramatic occasions but they have no value as news items. On the contrary due to such stories the mystery round Subhas Chandra Bose's death increases.



MOST IMMEDIATE/PARLIAMENT QUESTION

Ministry of External Affairs  
Europe West Division

Lok Sabha  
Unstarred Question No.4376

**INFORMATION ABOUT  
SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE**

Unstarred Question No. : 4376  
To be answered on : 21'st April 1999  
Tabled by : Shri Madhav Rao Patil and  
Shri D.S. Ahire

1. Final version of the question is placed at Flag 'A'.
2. Draft answer is placed at Flag 'B'.
3. Submitted for approval.

*Vani S. Rao*  
(Vani S. Rao)  
Under Secretary (EW-I)  
April 16'th 1999

Director(EW) *AS Raishnoi*  
*16/4/99*  
Joint Secretary(EW) *For approval*  
*B. M. 16/4/99*

Foreign Secretary

EAM

*21/5/99*  
*JS (Wood)*  
*DS (Wood)*

*AS*  
*25/5*  
*US (Rup)*  
*th*  
*24/5*  
*SPS*



JSCEW) 38

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION FOR

21ST APRIL, 1999

Information on Subhash Chandra  
Bose

4376. SHRI MADHAV RAO  
PATIL:  
SHRI D.S. AHIRE:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL  
AFFAIRS

विदेश मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have  
sought any information from the  
Government of Britain about Shri  
Subhash Chandra Bose;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the response  
received from British Government in  
this regard?



39

Unstarred Question No.4376

LOK SABHA  
Unstarred Question No.4376  
To be answered on 21'st April 1999

**INFORMATION ON SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE**

**4376. Shri Madhav Rao Patil and Shri D.S. Ahire:**

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- a) Whether the Government have sought any information from the Government of Britain about Shri Subhash Chandra Bose;
- b) if so, the details thereof; and
- c) the details of the response received from British Government in this regard?

**ANSWER**  
**MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**  
**(Shri Jaswant Singh)**

a), b) & c) Yes, Sir. The British Government have, in response to a query from the Indian High Commission in London, confirmed that the name of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose does not figure in any <sup>of the</sup> list of war criminals drawn up by them.



DPO

## HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA

India House, Aldwych  
London WC2B 4NA

## FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

<b>From:</b> Pavan Kapoor First Secretary (Pol.)		<b>Tel. No.:</b> (00-44-171) 836 8484 Extn. 164 <b>Fax No.:</b> (00-44-171) 836 6695
<b>To:</b> Mr B.S. Bishnoi		<b>Fax No.:</b> 00 91 11 3794145
<b>Mission/Company:</b> Director (EW), Europe West Division, Ministry of External Affairs, Room 39-A, South Block, New Delhi		<b>Department:</b>
<b>Copy to:</b>		<b>Fax No.:</b>
<b>File No.:</b> FS (Pol.)/'99	<b>Date:</b> 12.4.1999	<b>No. of pages (including this):</b> 2

In case of difficulty with this transmission, please ring (0171) 836 8484 Extn. 164.

## Message

**CRASH - PARLIAMENT QUESTION**

Reference your Fax of date regarding the 4 Lok Sabha Questions for answer on 21 April 1999.

2. Our inputs for the various questions are as follows, ad seriatim:

1) **Information on Subhas Chandra Bose:**

(a) Yes.

(b) The Government of India, through its High Commission in London, sought information from the Government of Britain about Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's name being on the list of war criminals drawn up by the UK after World War II.

(c) The information received from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office of the British Government was that no list of Indian war criminals was drawn up by the UK. Such a list was drawn up only for Japanese and German nationals. Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's name did not figure on any such list.

AM  
13/4  
US (21/1)  
Chy 18/4



: 2 :

**2) Delegation from Britain:**

- (a), (b) & (c) Government is unaware of any such delegation from House of Lords' likely visit to India for enquiring into visa problems.

**3) Relations with Britain:**

- (a) As part of an on-going process, the British Government reiterated their keenness to maintain and further develop good relations with India during the visit of our External Affairs Minister to UK from 2 - 5 February 1999, and during the visit of the Deputy Prime Minister of UK to India from 4 - 12 March 1999.

**4) British Dy. PM's Visit to India:**

We have not yet received details of what transpired during the visit.

*Warm regards,*

*P. Kapoor*  
(Pavan Kapoor)



LOK SABHA  
1-4-1999

42  
MOST IMMEDIATE  
PARLIAMENT QUESTIONS

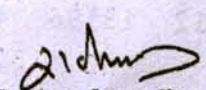
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
(Parliament Section)  
\*\*\*

The list of finally admitted questions for the Lok Sabha to be answered on 21.4.1999 is enclosed herewith.

2. The draft answers to Starred/Unstarred Questions in quadruplicate, typed in double space may be submitted directly to EAM/MOS after being approved by the concerned Secretary, by today itself.
3. Starred Question may be put up in red file cover and Unstarred questions in blue file cover.
4. While putting up the Question/Answer, text of the Question part in the printed version may be closely compared since it could be slightly different from that of the advance notice received earlier. The File number of the Section/Division may also be indicated to facilitate indexing & future referencing.
5. The following points may be noted while putting up draft answers:
  - (a) Para numbering on any statement to be laid on the Table of the House may be given.
  - (b) Para numbering on Note for Supplementaries may be given.
  - (c) In presenting draft answers to Starred Questions two identical sets may be made consisting of:
    - (i) Question/Answer
    - (ii) Statement (if any)
    - (iii) Note for Supplementaries
    - (iv) Anticipated Questions & their Answers (if any)

The remaining two sets of Questions/Answers/Statements may then be placed thereafter.

6. In case of Starred Questions, it may be ensured that 12 copies of Note for supplementaries and anticipated questions and answers (if any), reach Parliament Section by 1100 hrs on Monday, 19-4-99 for timely preparation of briefing folders for EAM/ MOS, Secretaries and other Officers.

  
(Rajender Kumar)  
Section Officer (Parl)  
16-4-99

DISTRIBUTION AS PER ENCLOSED LIST



STARRED QUESTIONS

Sl. No.	Adv. No.	Final No.	Priority	Subject	Section/	Head of Division
1.	17949 OIH	421	I	Release of Prisoners	IPA	JS(IPA)
2.	17861	425	V	Aid to Kosovo Albanians	EE	JS(EE)
3.	17879	429	IX	Indo-Pak Dialogue	IPA	JS(IPA)
4.	17919	432	XII	Air Strikes by NATO	EE	JS(EE)
5.	17938 OIH	435	XV	Visa to NRIs	CPV	JS(CPV)
6.	17958	438	XVIII	PM Visit to Pak	IPA	JS(IPA)

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Sl. No.	Adv. No.	Final No.	Subject	Section/	Head of Division
1.	3160	4364	Visits of Custom Officers in India to Check Child Labaour	AMS	JS(AMS)
2.	3723	4373	International Seminar on Peace Keeping	UN-II	JS(UNP)
3.	3737	4375	Cultural Troupes	ICCR	JS(CUL)
4.	3739	4376	Information on Subhash Chandra Bose	EW	JS(EW)
5.	4035	4383	Forcible Takeover of Indian Labourers	BM	JS(BSM)
6.	4808 OIH	4386	Agreements with other Countries	Coord	JS(Coord)
7.	11791	4391	Protection of Human rights	UN-I	JS(UNE)
8.	15663	4395	Single Currency for Asian Countries	MER	JS(ED & MER)
9.	17972	4403	Arrest of Indian Fishermen	IPA	JS(IPA)
10.	18140 OIH	4417	G-15 Conference	MER	JS(ED & MER)
11.	18163	4419	Promotion of Hindi	Hindi	JS(AD)
12.	18196	4424	Passports to Illegal Bangladeshi Nationals	CPV	JS(CPV)
13.	18258	4429	Central Haj Committee	Haj	JS(GD)
14.	18305	4431	Kashmir Issue	IPA	JS(IPA)
15.	18409	4440	Emigration Fee	CPV	JS(CPV)



(44)

16.	18438	4443	Bomb Attack on Hindu Temple	South	JS(South)
	OIH				
17.	18570	4449	Promotion of Indian Languages	ICCR	JS(CUL)
18.	19094	4450	Foreign Policy	EE	JS(EE)
19.	19188	4452	Fake Passport	CPV	JS(CPV)
	(OIH)				
20.	21911	4455	Bus Service to Dhaka	BM	JS(BSM)
	(OIH)				
21.	3790	4461	NATO Air Strikes	EE	JS (EE)
22.	04038	4462	Border Dispute	EA	JS(EA)
23.	15245	4465	Threat Perception of Chinese Nuclear Power	EA	JS (EA)
24.	17962	4474	Relations with Britain	EW	JS(EW)
25.	18016	4477	UN Conference on Disarmament	DISA	JS(DISA)
26.	18022	4478	Passport Advisory Committee	PV-I	JS(CPV)
	(OIH)				
27.	18114	4484	Posting of Ambassadors	FSP	JS(AD)
28.	18259	4493	Haj Pilgrims	Haj	JS(GD)
29.	18364	4501	Indo-China Cultural Ties	EA	JS(EA)
30.	18452	4506	Indian Enclaves	BM	JS(BSM)
31.	11595	4514	P.M. Visit to Pakistan	IPA	JS(IPA)
32.	11968	4515	Elimination of Child Labour	SAARC	JS(SAARC)
33.	17902	4520	Indo-Iran ties	IPA	JS(IPA)
34.	18271	4531	Joint Working Group	EA	JS (EA)
35.	18300	4532	British Deputy PM Visit to India	EW	JS(EW)
36.	17870	4538	Freedom Struggle	XP	JS(XP)
37.	17885	4539	Indo-Pak Joint Business Council	IPA	JS(IPA)
38.	17904	4541	Relations with China	EA	JS(EA)
39.	17925	4542	Compensation for Gulf war Victims	SKC	JS(SKC)



40.	18156	4546	Delegation from Britain	EW	JS(EW)
41.	17907	4551	Talks with France	EW	JS(EW)
42.	18159	4553	Foreign Secretary visit to Myanmar	BM	JS(BSM)
43.	07660	4555	Indian Land under Chinese Possession	EA	JS(EA)
44.	15275	4567	Re-opening of Khobrapar Railway Border	IPA	JS(IPA)
45.	17910	4571	SAARC Foreign Ministerial Meeting	SAARC	JS(SAARC)
46.	18105	4572	Investment in ASEAN Region	MER	JS(ED & MER)
47.	18217	4575	Fishermen in Pak Jails	IPA	JS(IPA)

Distribution

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5. AS(UN)/AS (FA)
6. JS (PP)/JS(Coord)/ JS(XP)
7. DS (Parl & Coord)/ DS(Hindi)
8. US (Parl & Coord)
9. XPR/XPP
10. Shri Rangarajan, Question Branch, Lok Sabha Secretariat

mgk/lfsfinlist\*





अति तत्काल  
MOST IMMEDIATE

D.O.No.2720/H/Vol.III (46)

भारत सरकार

रक्षा मंत्रालय

नई दिल्ली - 110 011

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

C-II Hutments, Dalhousie Road  
New Delhi - 110 011

A. P. Sharma  
Joint Secretary (Trg) & CAO

3100/JS(EW)/99  
20/4

(27)

April 20, 1999

Dear Ms Mukherjee,

Please refer to your d.o. letter No.2323/JS(EW)/99 dated 16th April, 1999 regarding Rajya Sabha Provisionally Stared Question Dy No.008171 for answer on 29th April, 1999.

2. All the records pertaining to INA held by the History Division of the Ministry of Defence have been declassified and already transferred to the National Archives of India on 26th August, 1997. There are no more records pertaining to INA in the custody of History Division of MOD. As such, Ministry of Defence is not concerned with part (c) of the Question under reference.

3. We are unable to accept transfer of the Question as suggested by you. You may like to take further action to answer the Question.

Regards,

Yours Sincerely,

*AP Sharma*

(AP Sharma)

Ms Bhaswati Mukherjee  
Joint Secy (EW)  
Ministry of External Affairs  
South Block  
New Delhi - 110 011.

Can we discuss?

BMV 20/4/99

Di (EW)

Discussed 28/4

US (EW)

Day 23/4

En P.S.



## HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA

India House, Aldwych  
London WC2B 4NA

## FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

<b>From:</b> Pavan Kapoor First Secretary (Pol.)		<b>Tel. No.:</b> (00-44-171) 836 8484 Extn. 164 <b>Fax No.:</b> (00-44-171) 836 6695
<b>To:</b> Mr B.S. Bishnoi	<b>Fax No.:</b> 00 91 11 3794145	
<b>Mission/Company:</b> Director (EW), Europe West Division, Ministry of External Affairs, Room 39-A, South Block New Delhi	<b>Department:</b>	
<b>Copy to:</b>		<b>Fax No.:</b>
<b>File No.:</b> FS (Pol.)/'99	<b>Date:</b> 12.4.1999	<b>No. of pages (including this):</b> 2

In case of difficulty with this transmission, please ring (0171) 836 8484 Extn. 164

Message

CRASHPARLIAMENT QUESTION

Reference your Fax of date regarding the 4 Lok Sabha Questions for answer on 21 April 1999.

2. Our inputs for the various questions are as follows, ad seriatim:

## 1) Information on Subhas Chandra Bose:

(a) Yes.

(b) The Government of India, through its High Commission in London, sought information from the Government of Britain about Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's name being on the list of war criminals drawn up by the UK after World War II.

(c) The information received from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office of the British Government was that no list of Indian war criminals was drawn up by the UK. A list was drawn up only for Japanese and German nationals. Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's name did not figure on any such list.

AIB  
13/4  
US (ex/1)  
Vivek 18/4.

SPS



(98)

: 2 :

**2) Delegation from Britain:**

- (a), (b) & (c) Government is unaware of any such delegation from House of Lords' likely visit to India for enquiring into visa problems.

**3) Relations with Britain:**

- (a) As part of an on-going process, the British Government reiterated their keenness to maintain and further develop good relations with India during the visit of our External Affairs Minister to UK from 2 - 5 February 1999, and during the visit of the Deputy Prime Minister of UK to India from 4 - 12 March 1999.

**4) British Dy. PM's Visit to India:**

We have not yet received details of what transpired during the visit.

*Warm regards,*

*Pavan*  
(Pavan Kapoor)



59

54

Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose's name being on the list of war  
criminals drawn up by the U.K. after World War II.

According to the UK's Imperial War Museum, London and as substantiated by the Historical Branch of the Foreign and Commonwealth office, UK did not draw up a list of Indian war criminals. Such a list was drawn up only for Japanese and German nationals.

According to information given by the Senior Historian of the Imperial War Museum, even if Netaji's name had been on any such list, his name would have been removed, following his death soon after World War II. The Army Historical Branch of the Ministry of Defence, UK has also been contacted to re-confirm this information. Their response is awaited.

SPS



(86)

# QUESTION FOR THE LOK SABHA

ORIGINAL UNSTARRED

ADMITTED

D.No. 3739

Ministry to which the  
day has been allotted : EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

The question will be put down for the  
sitting on the :-

21-04-99

INFORMATION ON SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE

SHRI MADHAV RAO PATIL:  
SHRI D.S.AHIRE:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have sought any information from the Government of Britain about Shri Subhash Chandra Bose;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of the response received from British Government in this regard?

TS(EW)  
DIR(EW)  
WSC(EW) / D)  
GSD(EW)  
8/4/99

extra copy. 13/4

50(EW)

Subs



(61)

*Most Immediate/Parliament Question*  
1180 / DTR/ED/199  
**MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**  
(Europe West Division)

**RAJYA SABHA PROVISIONALLY STARRED**  
**QUESTION DY. NO. 008171 FOR ANSWER**  
**ON 29 APRIL 1999**  
**REGARDING NETAJI SUBASH CHANDRA BOSE**

Placed below is a copy of the Notice received from Rajya Sabha Secretariat regarding Provisionally Starred Question Dy. No. 008171 for answer on 29 April 1999.

2. Parts (a) and (b) of the Question seek information on whether the name of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose still figures in the list of war criminals maintained by the British Government. Our High Commission in London had, in this regard, earlier informed us that Netaji Subash Chandra's name had, in fact, never been included in any list of war criminals drawn up by the British Government. This information had been communicated by the Ministry of Home Affairs to Parliament in response to Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question Dy. No. 237 answered on 24 February (copy enclosed).
3. Part (c) of the Question seeks information on whether the Government proposes to make public the documents relating to the death of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. MHA have informed us that they are not in possession of any such documents. A copy of MHA's communication in this regard is also placed below.
4. It is understood that certain documents relating to the death of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose are with EA Division. It would, therefore, be for EA Division to respond to whether the Government have any plans to make these documents public. (It is possible that these documents may be of a classified nature).
5. It is requested, in view of the above, that EA Division may kindly accept transfer of the above mentioned Parliament Question.

*AS Bishnoi*

( B.S. Bishnoi )  
Director (EW)

15.4.99

Director (JK)



(52)

~~1253/DIR/5019~~  
**MOST IMMEDIATE/SECRET**

**MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**  
(Europe West Division)

Placed below is a copy of the Notice received from Rajya Sabha Secretariat regarding Provisionally Starred Question Dy. No. 008171, which was earlier supposed to have been answered on 29 April 1999.

2. Part (c) of the Parliament Question had sought information on whether the Government had any plans for making public the documents relating to the death of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

3. EA Division as well as MHA and MOD have informed us that they do not have any documents on this matter. The National Archives have some documents which were transferred to them by the MOD in 1997 and which are available to the public.

4. NGO may kindly inform this Division if it has any documents regarding the death of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. This information would be required to respond to Part (c) of the Parliament Question whenever it comes up again i.e. on whether the Government has any plans for making public the documents relating to the death of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

*B. S. Bishnoi*

( B.S. Bishnoi )  
Director (EW)  
20.4.99

**SO, NGO**

*US(EW/1) 10/21/99*

SPS

o/c



F.No.33-1/99.P.A.  
National Archives of India  
Government of India,  
Janpath, New Delhi-110001

19 APR 1999

(83)

By Special Messenger

Most Immediate

Parliament Question

(21)

To

Shri B.S. Bishnoi,  
Director(EW)  
Ministry of External Affairs, South Block,  
New Delhi.  
Fax No.-3794145

Subject:- Rajya Sabha Provisionally starred Question Dy.No.008171  
for answer on 29th April, 1999— Documents relating  
to the death of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

Sir,

I am to refer to the Ministry of External Affairs letter  
No.W1 dated 16th April 1999 and forward herewith parawise reply.

Yours faithfullu,

*S.M.R. Baqar*

( S.M.R. BAQAR )

Deputy Director of Archives,  
Government of India

Encls:-I

*clb*



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Rajya Sabha Provisionally starred Question Dy. No. 008171  
for answer on 29th April, 1999 regarding documents relating to  
the death of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose by Karnendu Bhattacharjee.

<u>Question</u>	<u>Answer</u>
(a) Whether it is a fact that the name of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose still figure in the list of War Criminals maintained by the British Government.	No comments to offer. Since no records available in National Archives of India.
(b) If so, whether Government propose to approach the British Government for removal of the name of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose from the list, and	Matter does not pertain to National Archives of India in view of 'a' above.
(c) Whether Government propose to acquire and make public all the documents relating to the death of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and the details thereof.	National Archives of India is not in a position to offer any comments in this regards. Ministry of Defence, Government of India had downgraded 990 folders containing I.N.A. Papers transferred to National Archives of India on 26th August, 1997 which are open for consultation by the bona-fide research scholars in Research Room, National Archives of India.



(69)

Note for the supplementaries on Rajya Sabha starred Q.No.-008171 which will be put down for sitting on 29th April, 1999.

National Archives of India has acquired 14 microfilm rolls from U.K. & Germany on Subhas Chandra Bose under Cultural Exchange Programme.

46 Photo copies of Subhas Chandra Bose Papers were received through Department of Culture on 15.5.91 from U.S.S.R.

On 26th August, 1997, 990 items/files of I.N.A. papers were transferred by the Ministry of Defence, Government of India. These declassified papers include formation <sup>of</sup> the Indian National Army, platoon lecture, Radio Broad casts, speeches by Subhas Chandra Bose and other members of I.N.A. awarded of medals/Badges, in addition to various other activities of the I.N.A.; the formation of the all women Janshi Regiment, their rigorous training with rare photographs like guard of honour received by Netaji, detailed worked plan of the provisional Government; its functioning, allocation of Port follio etc. The most interesting part is about the trial of I.N.A. Soldiers in the Red Fort and related papers highlighting the activities and British Policy repression. Few copies of pages from File Nos. 249 I.N.A. & 282 I.N.A. having reference about the death of Shri Subhas Chandra Bose may kindly be seen at flag 'A' 'B'. —

The entire material stated above, i.e. microfilms, photo copies of papers of Subhas Chandra Bose and I.N.A. papers are open for consultation to bonafide Researchers. National Archives of India is extending full facilities to the Research Scholars in this regard.



~~Historical Section~~  
Historical Section  
Ministry of Defence

249

(56)

~~SECRET~~

(20)

I.N.A.

11

249/INA

Subject: — Information on S. C. Bose  
(G. H. R. Case)

POA

Historical Section  
Ministry of Defence



(57)

STATEMENT OF YOSHIMI TANEYOSHI, CAPTAIN (MEDICAL) OF THE  
IMPERIAL JAPANESE ARMY, WITH REGARD TO THE DEATH OF ONE  
CHANDRA BOSE, WHO DIED AT TAIHOKU, FORMOSA, ON  
18TH DAY OF AUGUST, 1945.

.....

I, TANEYOSHI YOSHIMI, Captain (Medical) of the Imperial Japanese Army, at present at Stanley Gaol, Hong Kong, having observed a statement in a Japanese newspaper, requesting information regarding the death of Chandra Bose, wish of my own free will to place any knowledge I have of this matter at the disposal of the authorities requiring it. To the best of my ability and memory I here state the events surrounding the death of Chandra Bose.

In August, 1945, I was the Senior Officer at the NANMON Military Hospital, Taihoku, Formosa. At about 1700 hrs on the 18th day of August, 1945, a truck driven up before the hospital contained several men who had been injured in an aeroplane crash. Two of the men were Indians, and the remainder, about five or six in number were Japanese. One of the Japanese, a Staff Officer with the rank of Lt-Colonel whose name I cannot properly recall, but believe was Ishii-something, informed me that one of the Indians, pointing him out, was Chandra Bose and that I was not to spare myself and must give him the very best of treatment. I immediately gave instructions for some medical orderlies to go prepare a bed, and for others to carry in the injured man.

When he was laid on the bed, I personally cleaned his injuries with oils and dressed them. He was suffering from extensive burns over the whole of his body, though the most serious were those on his head, chest and thighs. There was very little left on his head in the way of hair or other identification marks. During the first four hours he was semi-conscious, and practically normal, speaking quite a good deal. The first words I remember him speaking were in Japanese, when he made a request for water, which had to be fed to him through a hospital cup with a spout. As most of his speaking was in English, a request for an interpreter

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was made, and one was sent from the Civil Government Office named NAKAMURA. He informed me that he had very often interpreted for Chandra Bose and had had many conversations with him. He appeared to have no doubt that the man he was speaking with was Chandra Bose. During the treating of his injuries, I twice inquired of Chandra Bose if he was in any pain, and neither time did he make an answer. After about four hours. I inquired whether there was any statement, will, or such matter he wished to make. He answered 'Nothing'. After the fourth hour he appeared to be sinking into unconsciousness. He murmured, and muttered in his state of coma, but never regained consciousness. At about 2300 hours he died. There was apart from the injuries mentioned above, abrasions on his elbows and knees. There were no fractures.

The other Indian was Chandra Bose's Adjutant, a Colonel of the Indian National Army, who was suffering from burns to the sides of his head, arms, hands and knees. I do not remember this mans name, but recall that it was a very long one. He was a very tall man, about six feet or over, medium build, and clean shaven.

It was the wish of this Colonel, and also that of the authorities that the remains of Chandra Bose should be transported to Tokyo, and to facilitate this I injected Formalin into the body, and also had the coffin partly filled with lime. The whole was put in a box, and on the 20th August, was taken to Taihoku airport for transporting to Japan, in charge of Warrant Officer NISHI. W.O. Nishi returned later and informed me that the body for some unknown reason, could not be taken to Japan, and was to be sent to the crematdrium for cremation. I therefore made out a death certificate, stating the causes of death to be extensive burning and shock. The orders for this change of plan came from the Adjutant's Dept, Taiwan Army.



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On the morning of the 19th August, Colonel Miyata, Staff Officer of General Ando came to the hospital to express mourning on behalf of General Ando and his staff, and as is our custom brought gifts of flowers, fruits and cakes for the deceased. The news of the death of Chandra Bose was kept a secret, and I and my staff were warned not to divulge that we knew who it was that had died. The news was as far as I can remember published in the public press early in the month of September, 1945.

Of the other passengers of the aircraft I have some direct and some information which was told to me. As far as I could make out, the aircraft, carrying Chandra Bose his Adjutant and about ten or twelve others (Japanese), took off from the Taihoku Air Port, and after rising to a height of thirty feet, suddenly burst into flames and crashed to the ground. A Major General SHIDEI and two others were killed, or unable to escape and were burned with the plane. The others escaped or were rescued, and were brought to Nanmon hospital. The two pilots, Warrant Officer (later 2/Lt) AOYAGI and a Sergeant Major., were both burned, but after remaining in my care for about two or three weeks had practically recovered and were transferred to the Hokuto Military Hospital where I later heard they had died, about three weeks after admittance.

The Indian Colonel, Adjutant to Chandra Bose, remained in my care for about 10 days, and was then sent to the Hokuto Military Hospital. The interpreter Nakamura went up there with him, and I have no knowledge of what became of ~~what~~ either of them. I do know however that the ashes of Chandra Bose were handed over to the Indian Colonel.

There is nothing more I can remember of this matter, at the present, but will give thought to it, and anything of importance I later remember I will disclose.

Signed at Stanley Gaol, this 19th Day of October, 1946.

Name in Block Letters. YOSHIMI TANEYOSHI.



CERTIFICATE OF INTERPRETER.

I, HANAGAKI YOSHIO, State that I truly and correctly translated the above statement made by YOSHIMI TANEYOSHI, into English, and saw it taken down by Captain A.R. Turner. I later read over the whole of the above statement in the Japanese language, and YOSHIMI TANEYOSHI agreed and then signed the above statement, in the presence of myself and Captain A.R. Turner.

Signed at Stanley Gaol, this 19th Day of October, 1946.

.....  
Name in Block Letters. HANAGAKI YOSHIO.

I, ALFRED RAYMOND TURNER, took the above statement of YOSHIMI TANEYOSHI, with regard to the death of Chandra Bose, and the Certificate of the Interpreter HANAGAKI YOSHIO at Stanley Gaol, this 19th Day of October, 1946, duly witnessing their signatures.

.....Captain  
A.R. TURNER.  
War Crimes Liaison Section (Formosa).

Hong Kong,  
19th Oct. 1946.



18 Aug 45

On his right chest he wore a League HQ badge and also the I.N.A. tricolour badge. As far as Bl269 is aware, Bose was not wearing a wristlet watch, although Bl269 cannot say whether he carried one in his pocket. Bl269 knows nothing about the watch which Bose is alleged to have given Bhonsle (Bl189).

Note:- Major Bhonsle possesses a gold watch and chain which he stated was given to him by Bose at Bangkok on 17 Aug 45.

Bl269 insists that, as far as he was aware, it was Bose's intention to return from Tokyo as soon as he had completed his business there.

## 22. THE CRASH

18 Aug 45

At about 1400 hrs the bomber reached Taihoku (Formosa) airfield where it refuelled and the passengers had lunch. No Indian was there to meet them and neither did Bose interview anyone there. While having lunch Bose mentioned casually to Bl269 in Hindustani, that he hoped the Japanese would make arrangements for the rest of the party to come in time, and not disappoint them, as they had done previously at the time of his return from Tokyo. After a stay of about half an hour at the airfield, the bomber took off again. Before Bl269 and Bose entered the plane, the engine had been started and the crew were all in their places. About 5 minutes after taking off, and when the plane had reached an altitude of about 300 ft, Bl269 heard a very loud noise which resembled cannon fire coming from the direction of the nose of the plane. Bl269 thought at the time that the plane had been attacked. The aircraft appeared to lose flying speed and crashed almost immediately afterwards, hitting the ground on its nose. The engines as well as the rear of the plane were on fire. Bl269 saw Bose attempting to move towards the rear of the plane, but on Bl269's suggestion, Bose changed his course and moved towards the front. The celluloid cover above the pilot's position had burst open.

Some of the Japanese passengers reached the aperture before Bl269 and Bose, and crawling through it, dropped to the ground. The aperture was open to the left side of the plane. Bose then crawled through and was followed by Bl269. In doing so the flames were coming from the front and Bl269's face was burned on the right side (Bl269 carries obvious marks of recent burning and scorching on the whole right side of his face). Alighting on the ground and collecting his wits, Bl269 noticed Bose in a standing position about 12 yards away with smoke coming from his garments. Bose was endeavouring to remove his clothes. Bl269's clothes were not on fire. Bl269 rushed towards Bose to help him and finally succeeded in beating out the flames. In doing so, Bl269 received severe burns on both his hands (his hands are still bleached and scarred).

Bose had sustained serious burns all over his body and when he was laid on the ground Bl269 noticed 2 or 3 fractures on the skull. Bose lay for a while on the ground quiet with eyes closed.

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18 Aug 45, His last words were in Hindustani " I feel that I shall die. I have fought for Indian Independence until the last. Tell my countrymen, India will be free before long. Long live Independent India". Bl269 had seen only one Japanese (probably a Capt) sitting on a boulder near the plane with bleeding injuries on his head. Besides burns on the hands, Bl269's face was slightly burnt on the right side, and he also received two minor wounds on the head and one lacerated wound on the right leg below the knee.

Note 1: Bl269 bears marks of burns on the face and on both hands, two slight scars on the head and one mark of an injury on the right leg below the knee.

Note 2: When asked to explain why S.C. Bose was badly burned and he himself was not, Bl269 stated that Bose's clothes may have been drenched in petrol, as Bose sat under a petrol tank in the plane. Bose's clothes were of light weight K.D. Bl269 wore knee-boots, serge breeches and a serge tunic; his clothes were not burned at all (he wears them now at CSDIC(I)).

Within 10 minutes, a First Aid party arrived in lorries, and Bose and Bl269 were removed in one of the lorries to the Army Hospital a short distance from the scene of accident. Among others injured who came to the hospital (some before Bl239 and others after) were a pilot, a Lt Col, a Major and Lt or Capt. Bl269 later heard that Gen SHEDAI, the wireless operator, one of the members of the air crew and the Japanese Air Force officer had died. The Japanese Gen had been killed instantaneously. Bl269 remained with Bose from the time of the crash until the death of Bose at about 2100 hrs that night Tokyo Time. Bose was treated for his burns and several injections were administered by 3 or 4 Japanese doctors who attended him. Bl269 does not know the names of the hospital staff. Whilst in hospital Bose regained consciousness from time to time and uttered a few words, sometimes asking for water and sometimes suggesting that he be given injections. Some Japanese military officers came to the hospital and made enquiries from time to time about Bose's condition. When the doctors announced Bose's death to these officers, Bl269 requested them to send news to Bangkok and Singapore about the accident. Bose's body was kept in the room where he died, and Bl269 remained there all the night together with Japanese guards and some patients. Bl269 states that he did not keep any souvenirs, as none was available on the person of Bose after the accident-all their luggage having been burnt on the plane.

19 Aug 45 Bose's body remained in hospital all that day and night. The Japanese Staff Colonel visited Bl269 who requested him to make arrangements for the dead body to be taken to Singapore. Bl269 was told that arrangements were being made as requested for the corpse to be taken in a transport plane.



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- 20 Aug 45 A coffin made of sandal wood was brought to the hospital and Bose's body was placed therein.
- 21 Aug 45 Bl269 was informed that as the coffin was too large, it was not possible to transport it by plane, and the idea had therefore to be dropped. Bl269 then suggested that the body be cremated as the Japanese had said they were unable to preserve it. After the Japanese had signified their consent to this proposal, two photographs of Bose were taken, one with the body fully covered inside the coffin, and the other with the lid of the coffin closed and Bl269 seated by its side. Fruit and incense were placed on the coffin in accordance with Japanese custom.
- 22 Aug 45 At about 1000 hrs Bose's body was removed to a crematorium where a Japanese cleric who spoke excellent English, performed a religious ceremony. After this, Bose's body was taken out of the coffin, and placed in a furnace. The door of the furnace was locked and the key was kept by a Japanese military officer. Bl269 had declined to take charge of the key as he was at the time running a temperature and was in a very depressed state of mind. The body was then set alight by the cleric's assistant. At the cremation there were about 30 Japanese medical and military officers present. Bl269 does not recollect any of their names. Bl269 states that he was the only Indian present at the time. About half an hour after the body had been set alight, Bl269 left the crematorium with the others.
- 23 Aug 45 Bl269 in the company of the cleric and a Staff Major and 3 or 4 other Japanese visited the crematorium, when the ashes of Bose were collected and placed in a wooden box specially made for the purpose. Bl269 was shown a small piece of gold among the ashes which he believes was part of one of Bose's gold teeth. The box containing the ashes was then taken to a Japanese temple in the city, where a religious ceremony was again performed by the cleric. At this temple one of the military officers pointed to another box and told Bl269 that it contained the ashes of the Japanese Gen, whom he said had also died as the result of the air crash.
- 28 Aug 45 Bl269 was removed to Hokoto hospital, a distance of about 12 miles from Taihoku. While there, Bl269 requested the Japanese authorities to send him back to either Bangkok or Singapore.
- 3 Sep 45 Bl269 was told that a plane would be leaving for Tokyo on the following day, and that he could avail himself of this chance and take with him the ashes of Bose to Tokyo.



4 Sep 45

Bl269 returned to Taihoku and boarded the plane which carried 4 other Japanese passengers including Lt Col SAKAMAKI and 3 civilians whose names were not known to Bl269. Bl269 was told that the crash on 18 Aug 45 was due to one of the airscrews being damaged when the plane was taking off. Bl269 carried with him the wooden box containing the ashes of Bose, the two photographs of Bose taken on the 21st Aug 45, three photographs of the wrecked plane and a rectangular wrist gold watch with a leather strap.

Note 1: Bl269 explains that this watch was made over to him on 28 Aug 45 by one of the Japanese MOs who had attended Bose at the Taihoku hospital. It may be remarked here, that this watch has since found its way to S.C. Bose's brother Sarat Chandra Bose in Calcutta, and that Bl269 admits that two days after his arrival at Delhi he secretly gave this watch to Capt Shah Niwaz (Bl046).

Note 2: Bl269 states that no photograph of Bose's dead face was taken as the face was badly burned and made grotesque by the ointments etc which had been applied to his skin by the Japanese doctors.

24. AT TOKYO

4 Sep 45

On arrival at Fukuoka aerodrome Bl269 was taken to a Japanese hotel where he spent the night.

5 Sep 45

Left Fukuoka by plane about noon and reached an aerodrome (name not known) at 1500 hrs. At Fukuoka Lt Col SAKAMAKI separated from Bl269, as he stated he intended to travel by train from there to Tokyo. Before parting, SAKAMAKI took charge of the box containing the ashes of Bose as both hands of Bl269 were bandaged as a result of burns.

6 Sep 45

From the aerodrome on the mainland (name not known) Bl269 reached Tokyo by train, where he was met at the railway station by a young Japanese Officer. From the railway station Bl269 was taken to the house of one of his fellow Japanese passengers, and later that evening moved to the house of Rammurti, the Chairman of the I.I.L. Tokyo. Bl269 explained to Rammurti in the presence of Mrs. Rammurti (a Japanese) and 2 or 3 Indian students who were training in the Tokyo Military Academy, the circumstances of Bose's death. Shortly before Bl269 arrived in Rammurti's house, the box containing the ashes of Bose had reached there. That night Bl269 shifted to the house of Mrs. Sahai where he again met S.A. Iyer, who explained that he (Iyer) had left Saigon on the 19 or 20 Aug alone, as plane accommodation could not be arranged for the rest of Bose's party.



Note:- Bl269 is unable to give any information regarding the subsequent movements of the following 4 men who were left behind in Saigon:-

- (1) Capt (Col) Gulzara Singh
- (2) Capt (Maj) Pritam Singh
- (3) Deb Nath Das
- (4) Civ (Col) Hassan

While in the house of Mrs Sahai several Indian students of the Military Academy (whose names Bl269 does not recollect) and also Rammurti visited Bl269. The same Japanese Military officer who met Bl269 at Tokyo Railway Station, questioned Bl269 in detail regarding the accident at Taihoku. This same officer also took charge of the two photographs of Bose in a coffin, which Bl269 had up to then been carrying with him. Bl269 states that these photographs had been shown by him to Rammurti, Mrs Sahai and S.A.Iyer.

9 Sep 45 Bl269 shifted to another house where he was joined two days later by S.A.Iyer. Bl269 while living in this house with Iyer was once interrogated by an American officer and by Lt Col Figgess. (An Indian Army officer on the British Section attached to Gen MacArthur's HQ). Bl269 states that both he and S.A.Iyer visited Atami, Nikko, Hakone and Ikao all small towns on the main island for health and recreation purposes. There were no Indians living at these places, and Bl269 disclaims that he or Iyer went to these places on any kind of mission.

19 Nov 45 Bl269 left for Delhi by air in the company of FUJIWARA, S'ADA and MATSUMOTO.

25. ARRIVAL AT DELHI

22 Nov 45 Arrived Delhi at 2000 hrs. When he reached the Red Fort with Iyer and the other Japanese officers who travelled with him from Tokyo, he was accommodated with them in the camp of HQ Jumna Area under whose requisition the party had been flown from Japan.

24 Nov 45 At 1000 hrs Bl269 met Shah Nawaz (Bl048) Gurbaksh Singh Dhillon (Bl062), Sahgal (B968) and also Mr Bhulabhai Desai and other Defence Counsellors, and narrated to them the circumstances of the accident which resulted in the death of Bose.

27 Nov 45 Bl269 was taken over by CSDIC(I), with permission of HQ Jumna Area.

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No. 63/2/34/ GSI(b)

Headquarters,  
SACSEA Commission No. 1  
SAIGON? South East Asia Command.  
6 Nov 45.

To: HQ. SACSEA,  
GHQ (I) (for Combined Section M.I.Dte)  
HQ. ALF SIAM  
HQ. 14 Army.  
HQ. 20 Div.

Subject:- SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE.

The following information has been elicited from the conversations with the Staff Officers of the Japanese Army HQ. Saigon :-

1. In December 1944, SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE suggested that it would be expedient for the Japanese Govt. to come to terms with CHIANG-KAI-SHEK and further seek friendship with Russia. BOSE's theory was that CHINA would only too gladly accept a suggestion which would extract her from the convulsions of a long and weary war. In regard to Russia, he explained that he was convinced that the Russian alliance with GREAT BRITAIN and AMERICA was brought about by force of circumstances and that with the completion of German defeat, Russia will repudiate her present mask of friendship and will openly revert to her well known hostile status towards GREAT BRITAIN and U.S.A.
2. The Japs were in favour of such a move as they realised that their defeat was inevitable unless a paramount political event of this nature occurred. But they were doubtful if BOSE was capable of procuring this new tripartite alliance. The Japanese therefore rejected this offer and conventionally reiterated their belief in their eventual victory as they intended to produce a large scale counter-attack which would turn the tide of war in their favour.

There are indications that the Japanese Govt. evinced a keen interest when BOSE put forth these suggestions and in fact plausible as these looked to them; it was in this connection that BOSE visited TOKYO on Dec 44. But his preliminary effort to explore the possibilities for such a peace did not prove encouraging and hence the Japanese rejections of the proposals.

3. In June, 1945 while in SINGAPORE, SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE, foreseeing that the defeat of the Japanese was a matter of time only requested the Japs for permission to move his provisional Govt. and a part of the I.N.A. to JAPAN proper or CHINA. Southern Army, HQ passed this in turn to TOKYO. It is said that Lt. General SHIDEI, Vice Chief of Staff, Southern Army HQ. opposed this permission on the ground that without BOSE the I.N.A. in MALAYA and SIAM will not only disintegrate but become an administrative embarrassment at a juncture when it was least desired.
4. Again in July as the situation was ~~passed~~ fast deteriorating for the Japanese, BOSE sought permission, this time to enter U.S.S.R. via MANCHURIA with a few selected members of his movement. No formal reply was made to this but BOSE was advised to proceed to



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to proceed to TOKYO in view of his request. Col. YANO Chief of the 2nd Sec. Southern Army HQ, has been interrogated at some length on this point. He is emphatic that the Japanese decision to "respect BOSE's views" does not denote that the Japanese Govt. had sought or received willingness from the Russians to accept BOSE to go underground in their country.

On the contrary, he believes that the Japanese Govt was then approaching RUSSIA to sue for peace and could not at this stage allow any complication which must have arisen from BOSE's admission.

5. In the absence of any specific answer from TOKYO, BOSE intended to give himself up to Chinese or American forces, if on his arrival in TOKYO, the Japanese Govt. did not permit him to enter Soviet Russia. But the fact remains that from SAIGON, BOSE actually travelled in a plane which was taking Lt. Gen. SHIDEI to MANCHURIA via JAPAN where the latter had been posted after the surrender. Another source contends that there was no need for the Japanese to ask the Russians for BOSE's entry because BOSE wanted to go to MANCHURIA from where he thought he would be able to get in touch with the Russian forces and obtain necessary admission independently.
6. It was in view of this that S.C. BOSE had left SINGAPORE on 16 Aug. On his way, he stopped at BANGKOK where he took a formal farewell of everybody. He arrived in SAIGON at 1200 hrs on 17 Aug. 45. Lt. Gen. ISODA had come from BANGKOK to bid BOSE farewell and the former returned after two or three days.
7. After the accident at TAIHOKU on 18 Aug BOSE and HABIB-IN-REHMAN were admitted into Military hospital where BOSE died the same night.  
  
HABIB-IN-REHMAN after his recovery left for TOKYO on 5 Sep 45 with ashes of BOSE. Formosan Army informs that HABIB-IN-REHMAN took with him a package containing photographs taken at the time of BOSE's death and also the jewellery that BOSE was carrying with him.
8. It is generally recognised here that SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE had actually died. Also it is beyond doubt that he had ~~planned~~ plans to go underground together with a number of selected friends of his movement. There is nothing further by way of details or documentary evidence that can be obtained from Southern Army HQ. In the absence of substantial proof, it is still difficult to state conclusively the fate of BOSE but the belief that he is dead is growing stronger and widespread.

Further investigations are being conducted on the following lines :

- (a) Allied HQ TOKYO has been requested to fly Staff Officer TADA to SAIGON for examination.
- (b) Interrogation Report on "Col" HABIB-IN-REHMAN is on the way to this H.Q. and the details of it will be checked at this end.
- (c) The photographs will probably furnish best proof of his death.



THE LAST MOMENTS OF S.C. ROSE.

(Apr - Aug 45).

S.C. Rose and his party leaving Rangoon on 24 Apr 45 reached Bangkok on 14 May. The party, at the time of leaving Rangoon, had in its possession gold, gold ornaments and diamonds contained in 4 boxes of varying sizes ranging between 9"x 9"x 4" and 6"x 4"x 2". An additional quantity of gold was purchased on the way at Moulmein to the extent of Rs.700,000 drawn by S.C. Rose from Yokohama Specie Bank, Moulmein Branch.

While at Bangkok several meetings of the Cabinet Ministers of the PGI were held between 18 May to 14 Jun, the object of which was to decide as to the future course of action so far as the existence of the PGI was concerned. No decision could be arrived at as S.C. Rose had to leave for Singapore in order to carry out his propaganda over the radio against the acceptance of "Davall Proposal". In course of these meetings Lt. Col. (Maj-Gen) Chatterjee suggested that a nucleus of the PGI should be shifted to Yunnan Province in order to contact the Communists who had more influence in that part of China, and through their help to contact the Soviet authorities in Siberia. At the same time it was thought desirable to leave behind certain Cabinet Ministers and high ranking I.N.A. officers to carry on the fight with HQ at Bangkok and Singapore. The following were the officers present in these meetings :-

- (1) S.C. Rose
- (2) Lt. Col (Maj-Gen) Bhonsle
- (3) " " " " Chatterjee
- (4) " " " " Kiani
- (5) Capt (Col) Gulzara Singh
- (6) Iyer
- (7) A.M. Sahai
- (8) A.N. Sarkar
- (9) Isar Singh - Gen. Secretary IIL Bangkok.
- (10) Paramarand
- (11) D.M. Khan
- (12) Deb Nath Das
- (13) Karim Ghani (also attended the last meeting).

After the 2nd meeting (exact dates not remembered) Kiani left for Singapore to arrange accommodation for the PGI of Hindi girls numbering about 120 who were at that time at Bangkok. At about the same time Chatterjee, Iyer and A.M. Sahai left for Saigon - Chatterjee to establish the site for the PGI, Iyer for broadcasting work and Sahai on a special mission at Hanoi not known to B189.

On 16 Aug 45 S.C. Rose came to Bangkok by a special Jap bomber chartered for him, accompanied by Iyer, Capt (Col) Habib ur Rahman and Capt (Lt. Col) Pritam Singh. On 17 Aug 0700 hrs (Tokyo Time) Rose left Bangkok for Saigon accompanied by the following additional personnel of the PGI and I.N.A. :-

- (1) Gulzara Singh
- (2) "Maj" Hassan
- (3) Deb Nath Das

Lt. Gen. ISODA and two other H. Kikan personnel accompanied Rose and the party in a separate aircraft.



According to B1189's information received from H. Kikan and other sources, Bose and the parties reached Saigon on the same day (17 Aug). On the following day (18 Aug) S.C. Bose accompanied by Capt (Col) Habib ur Rahman left for Tokyo in a plane originally meant for the conveyance of some high ranking officials of Mori Butai as placing of the special bomber at his disposal was no longer possible. The rest of Bose's party remained behind at Saigon where at that time Chatterjee and Sahai were also staying. ISODA who happened to be present at the Saigon aerodrome to see the party off, said that Bose took his seat in the passage of aircraft between the pilot and the tail and as such could not be seen to wave goodbye when the plane took off. According to the estimation of B1189, the remainder of the party at Saigon named above might have moved into any of the following places, as these were the names of the places suggested by various members in the Cabinet meetings mentioned before :-

- (1) Yunan Province
- (2) Hanoi
- (3) Shanghai
- (4) Harbin (Pinkyang)

In course of talk with ISODA on 21 Aug 45 B1189 heard that the plane carrying Bose and the party landed at Taihoku (Formosa) at 1300 hrs (Tokyo Time) on 18th, and after about an hour's halt was taking off at 1400 hrs when the right engine failed resulting in the crash of the plane. The crew and the Chief of Staff Mori Butai were killed instantaneously, and Bose with Habib ur Rahman and 4 other Japanese officials were seriously injured. Bose and the other injured persons were removed to an eye hospital at Taihoku where he died at 2400 hrs on the night of 18/19 Aug 45 without regaining consciousness. No information about Habib ur Rahman could be obtained owing to restrictions put by the Allies on Jap communication. B1189 requested ISODA to keep photographs of Bose's funeral and other rites as well as his remains. No photographs or further information was received by B1189.

B1189 does not know whether Chatterjee ever met any of the nationalist Annamite leaders in course of his movements in French Indo-China. About Annamite leaders B1189 only knows that S.C. Bose on his way to Tokyo in Dec 43 was prevented by the Japanese from meeting some of them who were eager to meet him (S.C. Bose) at Saigon.

B1189 has no direct information regarding the gold mentioned above. His own impression is, that a major portion of the gold was taken by S.C. Bose while the remainder was left with the rest of his party.

\*\*\*\*\*



L. A. F. Z-2908

20/Mise/1009

282/1.14.A

## SECTION

Sub-Head.

**SUBJECT:-** How did Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose go to Japan from India.

Connected Files :-

## TRANSIT RECORD.

This record must be completed in INK by the officer signing the minute and the previous entry cancelled in INK by a horizontal line.

NOT TO BE COMPLETED UNTIL THE MINUTE HAS BEEN SIGNED.

To whom sent.	Date.	To whom sent.	Date.	To whom sent.	Date.
<p>Downgraded to unclassified</p> <p>12/2/97</p>					

Downgraded to <sup>II</sup>Unclassified

12/2/97



2 (81)

How did Netaji SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE go to JAPAN from India?

The North-West Frontier Province has very often in the past proved important in Indian History. Several times has the famous British Army suffered defeat at the hands of the hill tribes who inhabit the country. But today a little incident has brought this Province once again in the limelight. This is due to its connection with the disappearance of Subhas Chandra Bose from his house in Calcutta.

Mr. R.V. Karanjia, the representative of a Newspaper, who is touring the country, has published the following story. In this he appears to have used information from documents with the Government of India. The whole world considers Subhas Chandra Bose's escape from India as one of the greatest riddles of World War II.

Mr. Karanjia describes the N.W.F.P. as a beautiful but dangerous country. Many of the links in the route for S.C. Bose's escape from India in 1939 are to be found in this Province. He says that in spite of the time that has elapsed since the incident, he is able to obtain and send information of this mysterious incident.

First to Russia and then to Germany. Current public opinion on S.C. Bose's escape is that he sailed for Japan in a Japanese ship from the Bay of Bengal. This is incorrect. S.C. Bose went first to Kabul via Peshawar, through the Khyber Pass and then went to Russia and Germany. The Indian Frontier can be crossed only at two points in the N.W.F.P. One route enters Afghanistan and the other leads to Russia. Two methods are open for doing this: to obtain permission from the British authorities or to bribe a passage from the hill tribes. In the latter case the hill tribes guarantee safe escort across the frontier on money being paid.

Naturally S.C. Bose employed the second means. Evidence of S.C. Bose of having been last seen in this locality is available at Sub Kadar a hill outpost. Subhas Chandra Bose's disappearance came to the notice of the secret police a month after his escape when enquiries were initiated. This month's interval afforded S.C. Bose sufficient ~~time~~ time to make ~~xxxx~~ complete arrangements for leaving India.



3 (92)

It is still not understood how Russia, which conducted persistent propaganda against him, helped Bose to get to Berlin. But it must be remembered that in 1941, Stalin was not Hitler's enemy but his ally. For this reason alone he must have helped Subhas Chandra Bose to get to Berlin.

Today as the relations between Russia and the Western countries are strained, it is also possible that Russia, after the defeat of Japan has given sanctuary to S.C. Bose who dis-regarding his personal safety has pledged to gain India's independence.

It is said in some quarters that he was killed in a plane crash and there are also people who say that they have witnessed the incident. It is difficult to refute this.

Shri Narayan, the War Correspondent of the "Hindu" who is on a Far-Eastern tour at present, reports that reliable evidence to substantiate S.C. Bose's death in a plane crash is not available.

The arrival recently in Bengal of S.C. Bose's alleged remains and the bringing of the charred leather wrist watch strap cannot be taken as conclusive proof of his death.

Some months ago also, the Japanese Propaganda Department had announced a plane crash in which S.C. Bose was supposed to have been killed. It is just possible that in this case also the news of his death may be untrue.

The bringing of S.C. Bose's remains to Bengal and the findings of his wrist-watch strap are certainly dramatic occasions but they have no value as news items. On the contrary due to such stories the mystery round Subhas Chandra Bose's death increases.





अति तत्काल  
MOST IMMEDIATE

विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
NEW DELHI

BHASWATI MUKHERJEE  
JOINT SECRETARY (EW)

31/6/99  
20/4

No. 2323 /JS(EW)/99

16th April, 1999.

Dear Shri Shaema,

Enclosed is a copy of the Notice received from Rajya Sabha Secretariat regarding Provisionally Starred Question Dy. No. 008171 for answer on 29th April, 1999.

2. Parts (a) and (b) of the Question seeks information on whether the name of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose still figures in the list of war criminals maintained by the British Government. Our High Commission in London had, in this regard, earlier informed us that Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose's name had, in fact, never been included in any list of war criminals drawn up by the British Government. This information had been communicated by Ministry of Home Affairs to Parliament in response to Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question Dy. No. 237 answered on 24th February (copy enclosed).

3. Part (c) of the Question seeks information on whether the Government proposes to make public the documents relating to the death of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. It is understood that documents on this subject, apart from those which were transferred to the National Archives, are with the Ministry of Defence. It would, therefore, be for the Ministry of Defence to respond to whether the Government have any plans to make these documents public.

4. It is requested, in view of the above, that Ministry of Defence may kindly accept transfer of the above mentioned Parliament Question. A copy of the communication to the Rajya Sabha Secretariat may kindly be endorsed to this Ministry.

Yours sincerely,

Bhaswati Mukherjee

(Bhaswati Mukherjee)

Shri A.P. Sharma  
Joint Secretary (Training),  
Ministry of Defence,  
New Delhi.

an  
19/4

US (201)

19/4

On 19/4



NOTICE OFFICE  
Dy. No. 008172  
Date .....

RAJYA SABHA/राज्य सभा  
QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER  
मौखिक उत्तर के लिए प्रश्न

QUESTION BRANCH  
S. Q. Dy. No. 008171  
Date .....

FROM/प्रेषक

KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE

To/संभा में,

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL/महासचिव,

RAJYA SABHA, NEW DELHI/राज्य सभा, नई दिल्ली।

SIR/MADAM, महोदय/महोदया,

Under Rule 39 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business, I give notice of the following Questions  
प्रक्रिया तथा कार्य संचालन संबंधी नियमों के नियम, 39 के अंतर्गत, मैं निम्नलिखित प्रश्नों की सूचना देता हूँ। जिनका मौखिक  
for oral answer on/उत्तर..... 29/4/99 को दिया जाये।

Yours Faithfully/भवदीय,

Member/सदस्य

Division No./विभाजन सं. 272

Order of preference/प्राथमिकता क्रम

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

\*Will the Minister of ..... be pleased to state:

\*क्या..... मंत्री यह बताने को कृपा करेंगे कि:

(a)(क)

whether it is a fact that the name of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose still figures in the list of War Criminals maintained by the British Government;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to approach the British Government for removal of the name of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose from that list; and

(c) whether Government propose to acquire and make public all the documents relating to the death of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose and the details thereof?



56/85

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 237.

(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 24TH FEBRUARY, 1999)

DECLARATION OF BRITISH GOVERNMENT ABOUT NETAJI

237. PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV:  
SHRI ISH DUTT YADAV:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS § गृह मंत्री §  
be pleased to state:

(a) whether the British Government has declared Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose as a war offender;

(b) if so, whether Government are taking any action to get this declaration abolished; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

.....

गृह मंत्री § श्री लाल कृष्ण आडवानी §

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI)

(a): As per information furnished by the Government of United Kingdom, the name of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose was not included in any list of war criminals drawn up by them.

(b) & (c): Do not arise.

...





**Most Immediate/ Parliament Question**

विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
NEW DELHI

**FAX LETTER**

**B.S. Bishnoi,  
Director (EW)  
Tel & Fax No 3794145**

No. WI/

16<sup>th</sup> April, 1999

Dear Shri Sarkar,

Enclosed is a copy of the Notice received from Rajya Sabha Secretariat regarding Provisionally Starred Question Dy. No. 008171 for answer on 29 April 1999. Our telephone conversation of this morning also refers.

2. It will be appreciated, with reference to part (c) of the enclosed Question, if the National Archives could confirm if any of the documents available with it on this subject, and which are open to access by the public, contain references to the death of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

3. A reply by fax will be appreciated.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

*B.S. Bishnoi*

( B.S. Bishnoi )

Shri Sukumar Sarkar,  
Director General,  
National Archives,  
**New Delhi.**

(Fax No. 3384127)



79  
82

*Most Immediate/Parliament Question*  
1180 / DTR/ED/199  
**MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**  
(Europe West Division)

**RAJYA SABHA PROVISIONALLY STARRED**  
**QUESTION DY. NO. 008171 FOR ANSWER**  
**ON 29 APRIL 1999**  
**REGARDING NETAJI SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE**

Placed below is a copy of the Notice received from Rajya Sabha Secretariat regarding Provisionally Starred Question Dy. No. 008171 for answer on 29 April 1999.

2. Parts (a) and (b) of the Question seek information on whether the name of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose still figures in the list of war criminals maintained by the British Government. Our High Commission in London had, in this regard, earlier informed us that Netaji Subhash Chandra's name had, in fact, never been included in any list of war criminals drawn up by the British Government. This information had been communicated by the Ministry of Home Affairs to Parliament in response to Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question Dy. No. 237 answered on 24 February (copy enclosed).

3. Part (c) of the Question seeks information on whether the Government proposes to make public the documents relating to the death of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. MHA have informed us that they are not in possession of any such documents. A copy of MHA's communication in this regard is also placed below.

4. It is understood that certain documents relating to the death of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose are with EA Division. It would, therefore, be for EA Division to respond to whether the Government have any plans to make these documents public. (It is possible that these documents may be of a classified nature).

5. It is requested, in view of the above, that EA Division may kindly accept transfer of the above mentioned Parliament Question.

B.S. Bishnoi  
( B.S. Bishnoi )  
Director (EW)  
15.4.99

a/c



TRANSMISSION VERIFICATION REPORT

808

TIME: 18/04/1993 16:30

NAME: DIP. EN. MEA

FAX: 3794145

TEL: 3794145

DATE, TIME

18/04/1993 16:30

FAX NO. / NAME

3794145

DURATION

00:01:17

PAGE(S)

02

RESULT

OK

MODE

STANDARD





A.K. PAITANDY  
DIRECTOR (IS-I)

Tele.No.301 2478

DO No.2853/Dir(IS-I)/99.D(III)

*Most Honourable*  
*Parliament Member*  
गृह मंत्रालय  
भारत सरकार  
नार्थ ब्लॉक, नई दिल्ली-110001  
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
NORTH BLOCK, NEW DELHI-110001

Dated, the 15th April, 1999.

Dear Shri Bishnoi,

Please refer to your DO letter No.Wi/125/25/98-EW dated 12th April, 1999 addressed to Smt. S. Gairola, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs regarding Provisionally Starred Question Dy.No.008171 for answer on 29th April, 1999 regarding Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

2. We have gone through your points in the matter. However, as already mentioned to you on telephone by JS(IS-I), the issue whether Netaji's name was in the list of war criminals or not was actually sorted out by us in consultation with MEA and it was MEA which had given us comprehensive feed back on the subject based on which we had furnished our reply. Hence, part (a) and (b) of the question remain clearly with MEA and MHA has no separate input for the same. Moreover, we do not have any input yet in respect of part (c) of the question. Documents connected with Netaji are not with MHA. The current move of MHA to go in for a fresh inquiry into the alleged disappearance of Netaji is currently at the stage of making a concrete proposal for Government's decision.

3. In view of the above stated position, there is no scope for MHA to take over the said Provisionally Starred Question Dy.No.008171 and you may, therefore, handle this question at MEA's level only.

4. This issues with the approval of JS(IS-I).

*With regard*

Yours sincerely,

*A.K. Paitandy*  
15.4.99  
(A.K. PAITANDY)

Shri B.S. Bishnoi,  
Director (EW),  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
South Block,  
New Delhi.





विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
NEW DELHI

B.S. Bishnoi,  
Director (EW)

No.Wi/125/25/98-EW

April 12, 1999

Dear Smt. Gairola,

Enclosed is a copy of a Notice received by this Ministry from the Rajya Sabha Secretariat regarding Provisionally Starred Q. Dy. No. 008171 for answer on 29 April 1999 regarding Netaji Subhash Chander Bose.

2. Part (a) & (b) of this question have been answered by Ministry of Home Affairs during the last session of Parliament (Unstarred Question No. 237 answered on 24 February 1999). Part (c) of the question seeks information on whether the Government proposes to acquire and make public all documents relating to the death of Netaji Subhash Chander Bose.

3. The subject matter of Part (c) of the Parliament Question is being handled by Ministry of Home Affairs. The Ministry of Home Affairs is also, it is understood, instituting an inquiry into the death of Netaji Subhash Chander Bose.

4. It is requested, in view of the reasons outlined above, that MHA may kindly accept transfer of this Parliament Question. A copy of MHA's communication to the Rajya Sabha Secretariat in this regard may kindly be endorsed to this Division.

Yours sincerely,

( B. S. Bishnoi )

Smt. S. Gairola,  
Joint Secretary,  
Ministry of Home Affairs,  
New Delhi.

(Fax No. 3015750/3017763)

- NOO: 1) ✓ JS (Coordination)  
2) Shri Deepak Goel, Question Branch, Rajya Sabha Sectt.

B.S. Bishnoi



(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 24TH FEBRUARY, 1999)

DECLARATION OF BRITISH GOVERNMENT ABOUT NETAJI

237. PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV:  
SHRI ISH DUTT YADAV:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS § गृह मंत्री §  
be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the British Government has declared Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose as a war offender;
- (b) if so, whether Government are taking any action to get this declaration abolished; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

.....

गृह मंत्री § श्री लाल कृष्ण आडवानी §

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI)

(a): As per information furnished by the Government of United Kingdom, the name of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose was not included in any list of war criminals drawn up by them.

(b) & (c): Do not arise.



93 92

राज्य सभा

अतारांकित प्रश्न संख्या: 237

॥ 24 फरवरी, 1999 को उत्तर के लिए ॥

नेता जी के बारे में ब्रिटिश सरकार की घोषणा

237. प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव :

श्री ईश दत्त यादव :

क्या गृह मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

॥क॥ क्या ब्रिटिश सरकार ने नेता जी सुभाषचन्द्र बोस को युद्ध-अपराधी घोषित किया था ;

॥ख॥ यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार इस घोषणा को रद्द कराने के लिए कोई कार्यवाही कर रही है ; और

॥ग॥ यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है और यदि नहीं, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं ?

गृह मंत्री ॥ श्री लाल कृष्ण आडवानी ॥

॥क॥ यूनाइटेड किंगडम सरकार द्वारा प्रस्तुत सूचना के अनुसार, नेता जी सुभाष चन्द्र बोस का नाम उनके द्वारा तैयार की गयी अपराधियों की किसी सूची में सम्मिलित नहीं किया गया है !

॥ख॥ और ॥ग॥: प्रश्न नहीं उठता है ।



NOTICE OFFICE  
Dy. No. 008142  
Date

RAJYA SABHA / राज्य सभा  
QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER  
मौखिक उत्तर के लिए प्रश्न

QUESTION BRANCH  
S. Q. Dy. No. 008171  
Date

FROM/प्रेषक

KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE

To/सेवा में,

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL / महासचिव,

RAJYA SABHA, NEW DELHI / राज्य सभा, नई दिल्ली।

SIR/MADAM, महोदय/महोदया,

Under Rule 39 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business, I give notice of the following Questions प्रक्रिया तथा कार्य संचालन संबंधी नियमों के नियम, 39 के अंतर्गत, मैं निम्नलिखित प्रश्न की सूचना देता हूँ। जिसका मौखिक for oral answer on/उत्तर..... 27/4/99 को दिया जाये।

Yours Faithfully / भवदीय,

Member/सदस्य

Division No./विभाजन सं. 277

Order of preference/प्राथमिकता क्रम

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

\*Will the Minister of ..... be pleased to state:

\*क्या.....मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

- (a)(क) whether it is a fact that the name of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose still figures in the list of War Criminals maintained by the British Government;
- (b) if so, whether Government propose to approach the British Government for removal of the name of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose from that list; and
- (c) whether Government propose to acquire and make public all the documents relating to the death of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose and the details thereof?

Our response to a previous A.Q.  
can be seen at F/A.

Dir/ RW

Jan 8/4

P.T.O./ (कृपया)



(SS) 12/12/99 (EW)/99 (94)  
23/2  
2389/FS/99  
23/2

Vani S. Rao  
Under Secretary(EW-I)  
Tel: 301 6383

No. WI/125/6/98

6th January, 1999

Dear Shri Paitandy,

10

Please refer to our D.O. letter of even number dated 1st January, 1999 regarding the Writ Petition filed by Dr. S.S. Mohapatra, former MP in the Orissa High Court, for the removal of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose's name from the list of war criminals in United Kingdom.

2. In continuation, our High commission in London, has informed us that the Army Historical Branch of the British Ministry of Defence, has also confirmed that Netaji's name was not included in any list of war criminals, drawn out by the U.K Government after the Second World War.

Yours sincerely,



(Vani S. Rao)

Shri A.K. Paitandy,  
Director(ISI),  
Ministry of Home Affairs,  
North Block,  
New Delhi-1

o/k





05 JAN 1998

FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

Received at: 03:07 PM

NT AT: 03:07 PM

Signature of Operator: [Signature]

<b>From:</b> Pavan Kapoor First Secretary (Pol.)		<b>Tel. No.:</b> (00-44-171) 836 8484 Extn. 164 <b>Fax No.:</b> (00-44-171) 836 6695
<b>To:</b> Ms Vani S. Rao		<b>Fax No.:</b> 00 91 11 3010700, 3010680 & 3013547
<b>Mission/Company:</b> Under Secretary (EW-I), Europe West Division, Ministry of External Affairs, South Block, New Delhi.		<b>Department:</b>
<b>Copy to:</b>		<b>Fax No.:</b>
<b>File No.:</b> Lon./Pol./103/45/98	<b>Date:</b> 4.1.1998	<b>No. of pages (including this):</b> 2

In case of difficulty with this transmission, please ring (0171) 836 8484 Extn. 164.

**Message**

Ref. your Telex of date regarding Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

2. The only additional information to my Fax of 25.11.1998 (copy **enclosed** for ease of reference) is that the Army Historical Branch of the Ministry of Defence also confirmed with their records that Netaji's name was not included in any 'List of War Criminals' drawn-out by the UK Government after the Second World War.

**Regards,**

[Signature]  
(Pavan Kapoor)





(96)

भारत सरकार  
विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(97)

No. 12/125/6/98 EW

New Delhi the.....19

Vani S. Rao  
Under Secretary(EW-I)  
Tel: 01 6383

No. WI/

January 1, 1999

Dear Shri Paitandy,

Please refer to your D.O. letter addressed to Joint Secretary(EW) No.VI/11034/118/98-IS(D.III) dated December 29, 1998, regarding the Writ Petition filed by Dr. S.S. Mohapatra, former MP in the High Court of Orissa, for the removal of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose's name from the list of war criminals in United Kingdom.

2. The information as provided by Our High Commission in United Kingdom, in November 1998 is as follows :

3. *'According to the facts furnished by the UK's Imperial War Museum, London and as substantiated by the Historical Branch of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, United Kingdom did not draw up a list of Indian war criminals. Such a list was drawn up only for Japanese and German nationals. Even if Netaji's name had been on any such list, his name would have been removed, following his death soon after World War II. The Army Historical Branch of the Ministry of Defence, UK has also been contacted to re-confirm this information. Their response is awaited.'*

Regards,

Yours sincerely,

*Vani S. Rao*

(Vani S. Rao)

Shri A.K. Paitandy,  
Director(IS.I),  
Ministry of Home Affairs,  
North Block, New Delhi-1

87c



MOST IMMEDIATE

D.O.No.VI/11034/118/98-IS(D.III)

गृह मंत्रालय

भारत सरकार

7211/5300/98

नार्थ ब्लॉक, नई दिल्ली-110001

MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

NORTH BLOCK, NEW DELHI-110001

Dated, the 29th December, 1998



A.K. PAITANDY,  
DIRECTOR (IS.I),

Tele : 301 2478

Dear Sir,

Please find enclosed a copy of the letter from Shri D.C. Mohanty, Senior Central Govt. Standing Counsel, High Court of Orissa, Cuttack forwarding copies of Writ Petition O.J.C. No.14400/98 filed by Dr. S.S. Mohapatra, former M.P. in the High Court of Orissa and Orders of the Court dated 23.10.98 for removal of the name of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose from the list of war criminals.

2. Since the High Court of Orissa has directed Govt. of India to take up the matter, if not already so done, with the British Govt. to remove the name of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose from the list of war criminals, I shall be grateful if you could examine the Court orders and take necessary initiative in the matter.

3. This Ministry may kindly be informed of the action taken in this regard.

With kind regards.

Yours sincerely,

(A.K. PAITANDY)

Shri H.S. Puri,  
Joint Secretary(EW),  
M/o External Affairs,  
South Block,  
NEW DELHI.

Pl. convey the facts  
(as earlier ~~info~~ conveyed  
to us by H.C.I, London) to  
MHA

US(EW/1)

RLB

31/12/98



**Durga Charan Mohanty, Advocate**

Senior Central Government Standing Counsel

सेनियर सेण्ट्रल गवर्नमेण्ट स्टांडिंग काउन्सेल

Orissa High Court

Jhanjirimangala, Cuttack - 753 009, Orissa

(0671) { 622783 (R)  
624682 (O)

Ref. No. ....

Date. 27.10.1998....

TO

THE PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO PRIME MINISTER,  
P.M.O., NEW DELHI.

S i r,

11 In enclosing herewith the copy of Writ Application i.e., O.J.C. No. 14400/98 filed by one Dr. S.S. Mohapatra a former M.P. in the Hon'ble Oissa High Court, Cuttack along with the free authentic copy of the orders passed on dtd.23.10.98 by the Hon'ble Court, I am to say that this Writ Application was disposed by at the very initial Admission Stage.

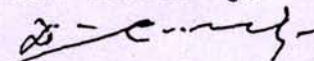
In this Writ Application although the applicant, made various prayers, ultimately the prayer was confined to one for taking steps by the Govt. of India, for removal of the name of Netaji Subash Chandra Bose from the list of the "War Criminals."

Their Lordships have ordered thus "Let the Government of India take up the matter, if not already done so, with the British Govt. to remove the name of Netaji Subash Chandra Bose from the list of War Criminals."

This is for your kind information and necessary action at your end.

With regards.

Yours Sincerely,



( D.C. MOHANTY )  
Senior Central Govt. Standing Counsel  
High Court of Orissa,  
C U T T A C K.



2 23-10-1998 Heard learned counsel for petitioner, and the learned Senior Standing Counsel ( Central ).

In the present writ application various prayers have been made concerning Netaji Subash Chandra Bose. Though it is accepted by the learned counsel for petitioner that Netaji Subash Chandra Bose is no longer alive, prayer has been made for a direction to the Government of India to publish all concerned documents relating to his death. The prayers made in the application are -

- (1) to produce all documents/records related to cause of death of Netaji Subas Chandra Bose;
- (2) to pass such order/orders directing the Government of India to notify the cause of death of Netaji, which is a National importance;
- (3) to make some observation advising the Govt. of India to take possible step to remove the name of Netaji in the list of 'War Criminals' noted against him;
- (4) to pass such other order/orders as this Hon'ble Court thinks proper in the interest of Nation.

2. It is conceded by the learned counsel for petitioner that substantial prayer involved is regarding removal of the name of Netaji Subash Chandra Bose from the list of War Criminals maintained by the British Government. Let the Government of India take up the matter, if not already so done, with the British Government to remove the name of Netaji Subash Chandra Bose from the list of War Criminals.



2 23-10-1998  
contd.

The application is disposed of.  
Let a copy of the order be furnished to learned  
Sr. Standing Counsel ( Central ) for appropriate  
action in the matter.

.....  
Chief Justice

.....  
A. Pasayat, J.



M/S A.C. Pradhan

IN THE HIGH COURT OF ORISSA: C U T T A C K.

O.J.C. NO. 14400/1998

(CODE NO:-

Dr. Shyam Sunder Mahapatra

... Petitioner.

-VERSUS-

The Principal Secretary to the  
Prime Minister, at P.M. Office,  
New Delhi and another.

... Opp. parties.

I N D E X

Sl. No. Description of documents.

P a g e s.

1. Writ application

1 to 9

2. Annexure-1

Copy of the News paper cutting

10

3. Vakalatnama

Cuttack

Date- 21.8.98

Advocate for the petitioner.

Received copy  
May 23  
A.C. (in)  
22.7.98



IN THE HIGH COURT OF ORISSA, CUTTACK

(Civil Original Jurisdiction)

O.J.C. No. 14400 1998

In the Matter of

Public Interest Litigation

In the Matter of

an application under Article 226 & 227 read  
with Art 49 & 51 A of the Constitution

In the matter of

Dr. Shyam Sunder Mohapatra Ex-M.P.

At P.O. Balasore, Orissa.

..... Petitioner

Vrs.

1. The Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister, at P.M. Office, New Delhi.
2. The Cabinet Secretary to the Govt. of India, New Delhi.

.....Opp. Parties

To

The Hon'ble Chief Justice of Orissa High Court &  
His companion Judges of the said Hon'ble Court,

Most Respectfully Shweth,

1. The petitioner is an eminent citizen of India who held to be an Ex-Member of Parliament (both Houses of Parliament) and former General Secretary of All India Congress invokes the Jurisdiction of this Hon'ble Court to issue a writ of mandamus calling upon the Central Govt. to make a written declaration before the people of India regarding mysterious death of Netaji Subash Chandra Bose, a great National Hero, whose centenary celebration by the Govt. is just over. The petitioner further prays to this Hon'ble Court to be pleased to issue appropriate direction to Govt. of



94/103  
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India to make every possible step and fight on the issue with the Allied Powers to remove Netaji name in the list of war criminal & P.O.W.

2: The petitioner by this petition challenges the inaction of the Govt. of India as no process is initiated on a memorandum to Prime Minister signed by more than 200 Indian expatriates including senior Indian diplomats urging to place before people of India all relevant documents in the custody of the Govt. of India related to the disappearance of Netaji (as appeared in press). They have also sought Govt. of India's intervention requesting the Govt. of Russia, Britain and Japan to disclose classified files which can throw light on this issue.

3. A sense of patriotism and nationalism, which is always inherent in the mind of petitioner led him to bring certain relevant incidents regarding death of Netaji to the notice of this Hon'ble Court. The Petitioner is concerned with the maintenance of the dignity and decency of public image of National Heroes, who belong to this mighty country. Therefore, the petitioner feels his duty to put forth some correspondences between the then Prime Minister of Britain and Nehru and Mahatma Gandhi and other records which got published recently in different papers and magazines, which suggest that Netaji was not dead in 1945 air crash. The petitioner considers these letters/records relevant which are available with Govt. of India that may give a distinct picture to help this Hon'ble Court to arrive at proper conclusion. It is the moral duty of a Govt. to make persistent efforts to determine the cause of death of a National Hero and to disclose it before the people. The Govt. is also duty bound to make every possible effort to unhold and upgrade the prestige of National Heroes at national as well as international level. Because their births and deaths and activities are not only valuable pieces of history but also it will cause tremendous impact on the future generation.



95/04

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ISSUES

- a) Whether this Hon'ble Court can take cognizance to settle the issue on the mysterious death of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose which was left unsettled as per judgement of the Supreme Court reported in 1997(6) SCC 535.
- b) Whether disclosure the death of National Hero & Leader is coming under the definition of national importance in as much as entire population of India have been waiting to know such mysterious incident since 1945 ? Whether it was or it was not?
- c) Whether the Govt. of India will be called upon to initiate necessary steps to delete the word 'War Criminal' noted against Netaji by diplomatic process/dialogue, who is symbol of national prestige?

The fact leading to file the present writ petition as follows :

Nehru, Gandhi letters show Netaji alive after 45 crash

- (i) In a letter to then British Prime Minister Clement Attlee in December 1946, Jawaharlal Nehru wrote that he had news of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose's whereabouts in Russia after August 1945-days after he was supposed to have died in an aircraft crash near Tokyo. In a similar letter to his biographer Louis Fisher a few months earlier, Mahatma Gandhi wrote that Netaji was alive in Russia in July 1946.
- (ii) These and several other post-war documents unearthed from the archives of the erstwhile East Germany, Soviet Union and United States have once again



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threatened to reopen the mystery surrounding Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose's death in an air crash at Taihoku in 1945.

(iii) With most of the new evidence in hand, a Hamburg-based association of expatriate Indians have now written to Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee, urging him to initiate a 'Serious and Scientific' inquiry into the mystery. In a memorandum submitted to the Indian Prime Minister on August 15, 1998, and signed by more than 200 Indian expatriates, members of the group have claimed that the weight of existing evidence seriously challenges the air crash theory. The most important pieces of evidence that have now come to light are :

(iv) Dr. Radha Benode Pal, eminent jurist who represented India on the War Crimes Tribunal in Tokyo, was shown the allied intelligence report of the alleged plane crash by the American judge at the tribunal. According to this report, there was no plane crash at Taihoku within a time span of a week before or after August 18, 1945. (Letter from Netaji nephew, the late Amiya Nath Bose, to then Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao in 1992)

(v) Deposition made under oath to the Khosla Commission by Shyam Lal Jain, Personal stenographer of Jawaharlal Nehru, regarding a letter from Nehru to Prime Minister Clement Attlee of Britain in December 1946 referring to Subhas Bose's entry into Russia territory after August 1945. (Khosla Commission Records).

(vi) A letter written by Khurshed Naoroji on behalf of Mahatma Gandhi to Louis Fischer on July 22, 1946, mentioning that Gandhi Ji had information to the effect that Subhas Bose was alive and in Russia in July 1946. (Princeton University Archives, US)



92/126  
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(vii) In early 1950, Reimund Schabel, a well-known journalist from the erstwhile East Germany told MS Emilie Schenk Bose, wife of Netaji that he had information regarding Netaji's presence in the Soviet Union. (Letter from Ms. Schenk Bose)

(viii) Grave doubts expressed by Shigemitsu foreign Minister of Japan after the war (who held the same office under wartime Prime Minister Tojo as well), during the Shah Nawaz Commission's visit to Japan in 1955. (Letter between Amiya Nath Bose and Shigemitsu in 1955)

(ix) Refusal of solicitor-general's office to place Government of India records on the subject before the Calcutta High Court in 1993.

Recent revelations regarding the existence of KGB files on Netaji after 1945, now available with three research scholars in the city of Calcutta.

(x) The signatories, who include some senior Indian diplomats as well as various well-known and eminent citizens, have now urged the Prime Minister to place before the people of India all relevant documents in the custody of the government of India related to the disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

They have also sought his intervention in requesting the Government of Russia, Britain and Japan to disclose files which can throw any light on the subject.

(A copy of news paper cutting is marked as Annexure-I)

#### GROUND

1. The petitioner states and submits that citizens of a nation have rights to know the cause of death of their national leaders. Because their births and deaths and activities are the creation of piece of History which must inspire to the future



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generation. It is the duty of the Govt. to determine the cause of death and declare the same before the people by way of notification after making elaborate enquiry on available relevant letter/correspondences and other records, being a national importance.

2. The petitioner states & submits that according to report of Dr. Radha Benode Pal, eminent jurist, who represented India on the War Crimes Tribunal in Tokyo, which says that there was no plane crash at Taihoku within a time span of a week before or after August 18, 1945. If that is so, the Govt. of India has to make a enquiry such mysterious incident on the report of Dr. Pal. The report fishing shall be summoned and be produced for the sake of convenience.

3. The petitioner further submits that the letter of Mahatma Gandhi to biography Loui Fischer in July 1946 and letter of Late Nehru to the then Prime Minister Clement Attlee on December 1946 cast some doubt that 'Netaji has not died in August 1945 aircrash at Taihoku. These letters which are preserved with Govt. of India should be produced.

4. It is submitted that several other post-war documents unearthed from the archives of the erstwhile Germany, Soviet Union and US may throw some light regarding death of Netaji. The Govt. has not made any attempt to release these documents nor sent any person to study the same. Therefore, the Govt. of India shall be called upon to take all step to know these documents which are in the custody of the Govt. of Russia, Germany Japan and USA and determine the cause of death of Netaji.

5. The Petitioner states and submits that National Leaders are symbol of prestige



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of a country. A country/Nation gets always recognition through it's leader. Therefore, Govt. should always endeavour to protect the dignity of its leader if name of the said leaders are misrepresented by undignified remarks.

At the end of world war-II the then British Govt. had enlisted the name of Netaji in the list of "War Criminal". Although 50 years have been passed the independent India Govt. has, at no point of time not attempted requesting British Govt. to delete the word "War Criminal" hurled against Netaji. Therefore, the Govt. of India's primary duty is to clarify its stand in this issue during and be directed to take immediate appropriate step in the regards.

6. The petitioner states and submit that on a summon by Calcutta High Court in 1993 the Solicitor General's office refused to place Govt. of India's records on the ground that it was not necessary at that time to determine cause of death of Netaji as the Award of "Posthumus Bharat Ratna" was not notified by Govt. of India. But disclosure of the death of Netaji is a national importance which is the persistent demand of the people of India since 1945. The disclosure of the cause of death of Netaji became indispensable when 200 eminent India signatories by a memorandum requested the present Govt. to place before the people, relying upon newly discovered materials.

The Govt.'s apathy has insinuated historical errors and has caused misjudgement regarding Netaji Subhas and has persecuted the later days cause of history.

The petitioner has knowledge that both Nehru and Indira Gandhi were consulted by the United Nation when trials of war criminals was going on.

8. That in this connection Netaji's. Inquiry Committee 1956 was constituted and Netaji's Inquiry commission 1970 was set up under commission of Inquiry Act 1952.



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It is contented that a further inquiry should be held in the this connection. These newly discovered documents/letters were not presented before the commission so far petitioner's knowledge concern.

9. The petitioner has never filed any such petition before any court earlier on the present issue.

**PRAYER**

Under the aforesaid fact and circumstances the petitioner most respectfully prays this Hon. Court be please to issue a write of mandamus or any other writ directing the Govt. of India to

1. Produce all documents/records related to cause of death of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.
2. Pass such order/orders directing the Govt. of India to notify the cause of death of Netaji, which is a National importance.
3. Make some observation advising the Govt. of India to take possible step to remove the name of Netaji in the list of 'War Criminal' noted against him.
4. Pass such other order/orders as this Hon. Court thinks proper in the interest of Nation. And for the act of which the petitioner shall as duty bound, ever pray.

Drawn and filed by

Cuttack

Anukul Chandra Pradhasn  
Advocate for the petitioner

Dated : .....



107/16

14

**AFFIDAVIT**

I, Shri S.S. Mohapatra, Ex-MP aged about 70 years, son of late Narendra Nath Mohapatra, R/o Balasore, Orissa do her solemnly affirm as follows :

1. That I am the petitioner in the present writ application and as such well acquainted with fact of the case.
2. That fact stated in writ petition is based on news paper and personal knowledge which are correct and believe to be true.
3. That annexure enclosed in writ petition is true copy of its original .

Deponent

Varified at Cuttack on the day

of October, 1998.

Deponent



# Nehru, Gandhi letters show Netaji alive after '45 crash

BY DHIMAN CHATTOPADHYAY

## SPOTLIGHT

Calcutta, Aug. 26: In a letter to then British Prime Minister Clement Attlee in December 1946, Jawaharlal Nehru wrote that he had news of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's whereabouts in Russia after August 1945 — days after he was supposed to have died in an air crash near Tokyo. In a similar letter to his biographer Louis Fischer a few months earlier, Mahatma Gandhi wrote that Netaji was alive in Russia in July 1946.

These and several other post-war documents unearthed from the archives of the erstwhile East Germany, Soviet Union and the United States have once again threatened to reopen the mystery surrounding Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's death in an air crash at Taihoku in 1945.

With most of the new evidence in hand, a Hamburg-based association of expatriate Indians

have now written to Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee, urging him to initiate a "serious and scientific"

inquiry into the mystery. In a memorandum submitted to the Indian Prime Minister on August 15, 1998, and signed by more than 200 Indian expatriates, members of the group have claimed that the weight of existing evidence seriously challenges the air crash theory. The most important pieces of evidence that have now come to light are:

■ Dr Radha Benode Pal, eminent jurist who represented India on the War Crimes Tribunal in Tokyo, was shown the Allied intelligence report of the alleged plane crash by the American judge at the tribunal. According to this report, there was no plane crash at Taihoku within a time span of a week before or after August 18, 1945. (Letter from Netaji's nephew, the late Amiya Nath Bose, to then

■ Turn to Page 2

## Netaji alive

■ Continued from Page 1

Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao in 1992).

■ Deposition made under oath to the Khosla Commission by Shyam Lal Jain, personal stenographer of Jawaharlal Nehru, regarding a letter from Nehru to Prime Minister Clement Attlee of Britain in December 1946 referring to Subhas Bose's entry into Russian territory after August 1945. (Khosla Commission Records).

■ A letter written by Khurshed Naoroji on behalf of Mahatma Gandhi to Louis Fischer on July 22, 1946, mentioning that Gandhi had information to the effect that Subhas Bose was alive and in Russia in July 1946. (Princeton University Archives, US).

■ In early 1950, Reimund Schabel, a well-known journalist from the erstwhile East Germany told Ms Emilie Schenk Bose, wife of Netaji, that he had information regarding Netaji's presence in the Soviet Union. (Letter from Ms Schenk Bose.)

■ Grave doubts expressed by Mamoru Shigemitsu, foreign minister of Japan after the war (who held the same office under wartime Prime Minister Tojo as well), during the Shah Nawaz Commission's visit to Japan in 1955. (Letters between Amiya Nath Bose and Shigemitsu in 1955).

■ Refusal of solicitor-general's office to place Government of India records on the subject before the Calcutta high court in 1993.

■ Recent revelations regarding the existence of KGB files on Netaji after 1945, now available with three research scholars in the city of Calcutta.

The signatories, who include some senior Indian diplomats as well as various well-known and eminent citizens, have now urged the Prime Minister "to place before the people of India all relevant documents in the custody of the government of India related to the disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose."

They have also sought his intervention in requesting the governments of Russia, Britain and Japan to disclose files which can throw any light on the subject.



103 112  
Most Immediate  
Parliament Question

No. WI/125/6/98-EW  
Ministry of External Affairs  
Europe West Division

Rajya Sabha  
Starred Question No.

~~Starred~~ Question No :  
To be answered on : 10.12.1998  
Tabled by : Shri Santosh Bagrodia

1. Final version of the question is placed at P-A.
2. Draft answer is placed at P-B. *(Inputs received from our Mission in London at P-C)*
3. Submitted for approval.

*Vani S.*  
(Vani S. Rao)  
Under Secretary[EW-I]  
~~4~~<sup>5</sup>th December 1998

Director [EW]

Joint Secretary[EW]

Foreign Secretary

*Question not  
admitted.  
But we could  
keep the  
response.*

*Janey*  
*4/12.*



(7)

RAJYA SABHA

(113) (104)

Starred Question No.

Starred Question No :  
To be answered on : 10.12.1998  
Tabled by : Shri Santosh Bagrodia

**Question**

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the British Government treated Netaji Subash Chander Bose as a war criminal after the end of 2nd World War: If so, the details thereof;
- (b) what steps government have taken in this regard with British Government; and
- (c) if not, whether Government have taken up the matter immediately in the interest of the sentiments of every Indian in the country?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE  
(Smt Vasundhara Raje Scindia)

- (a) No, Sir.
- (b) Does not arise
- (c) Does not arise



(6)

114  
105

Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose's name being on the list of war  
criminals drawn up by the U.K. after World War II.

According to the UK's Imperial War Museum, London and as substantiated by the Historical Branch of the Foreign and Commonwealth office, UK did not draw up a list of Indian war criminals. Such a list was drawn up only for Japanese and German nationals.

According to information given by the Senior Historian of the Imperial War Museum, even if Netaji's name had been on any such list, his name would have been removed, following his death soon after World War II. The Army Historical Branch of the Ministry of Defence, UK has also been contacted to re-confirm this information. Their response is awaited.



118 706  
JS(EW)/Di(EW)/US(EW)

PROVISIONAL ADMITTED QUESTION FOR THE  
RAJYA SABHA

NIC RS

27/11

Order. of  
Preference :

Starred/Unstarred Diary No.

S001999

The question will be put down for  
answer on the Ministry/Department  
addressed by the Member(s)

10/12/98

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Treating Netaji Subhas  
Chandra Bose as war criminal  
by British Government

\* SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:  
Minister be pleased to state:

Will the Prime

a) whether it is a fact that the British Government treated  
Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose as a war criminal after the end of 2nd World  
War; if so, the details thereof;

b) what steps government have taken in this regard with  
British Government; and

c) if not, whether Government have taken up the matter  
immediately in the interest of the sentiments of every Indian in the  
country?

mk

Sh. P.S.

Pl. prepare answer.

RSB  
20/11/98

Question not  
admitted

US(EW)  
20/4/12

A. put up (also  
discuss)

RSB  
20/11/98

US(EW)



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## HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA

India House, Aldwych  
London WC2B 4NA

## FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

<b>From:</b> Pavan Kapoor First Secretary (Pol.)		<b>Tel. No.:</b> (00-44-171) 836 8484 Extn. 164 <b>Fax No.:</b> (00-44-171) 836 6695
<b>To:</b> Ms Vani S. Rao		<b>Fax No.:</b> 00 91 11 3010700, 3010680 & 3013547
<b>Mission/Company:</b> Under Secretary (EW), Europe West Division, Ministry of External Affairs, Room 270-B, South Block.		<b>Department:</b> New Delhi - 110011
<b>Copy to:</b>		<b>Fax No.:</b>
<b>File No.:</b> FS (Pol.)/'98	<b>Date:</b> 25 11 1998	<b>No. of pages (including this):</b> 1

In case of difficulty with this transmission, please ring (0171) 836 8484 Extn. 164.

## Message

Reference your Fax of 23<sup>rd</sup> November 1998 regarding the question about Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose's name being on the list of criminals drawn up by the U.K. after World War II.

2. The information that I have received from the Imperial War Museum, which has been substantiated by the Historical Branch of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office is that no list of Indian war criminals was drawn up by the U.K. Such a list was drawn up only for Japanese and German nationals. Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose's name did not feature on any such list. The Senior Historian of the Imperial War Museum went further to say that even if Netaji's name had been on any such list, his name would have been removed following his death soon after World War II. I have also contacted the Army Historical Branch of the Ministry of Defence for them to re-confirm this with their records, but thought I would send you this information for the moment.

Regards,

  
(Pavan Kapoor)





Two Pages (14) (107)

विदेश-मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
NEW DELHI

**CRASH**

FROM : FOREIGN NEW DELHI

TO : HICOMIND LONDON

November 23<sup>rd</sup> 1998

**Shri Pawan Kapoor, First Secretary (Political) from US(EW)**

1. Please refer to our previous letter dated 4<sup>th</sup> March 1998, enquiring whether Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose's name was and still is in the list of 'War Criminals' drawn up by U.K after the Second World War.

2. Please find enclosed, a copy of the unstarred parliamentary question asking for the same information as above. Grateful, if the necessary information could be faxed at the earliest.

Regards,

Vani S. Rao

(Vani S.Rao)  
Second Secretary

23/11/98

6/11



6475/2520/88 (168)  
18/11  
MOST IMMEDIATE

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA  
RAJYA SABHA SECRETARIAT

Parliament House Annexe,  
New Delhi-110001.

No. Rs./SQD/UQD —Q 1976/185/98

Dated the...13.11.1998

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject:—Advance copies of the notices of Starred/Unstarred Questions.

The undersigned is directed to forward herewith an advance copy each of the following notices of questions as given by Members of Rajya Sabha, under rule 39 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha:

Starred/Unstarred Questions Dy. Nos. 1976, 1973, 1999, 1929, 1928, 1927, 1921, 1920,  
1919, 1918, 1823, 1819, 1818, 1817, 1816, 1808, 1801, 1815

for answer on

The Ministry/Department may furnish the FACTUAL INFORMATION, if any, in respect of the above notices of questions to this Secretariat immediately, with particular reference to the following points:—

- (i) whether the information asked for is contained in any easily accessible published document; if so, the particulars thereof;
- (ii) whether the question relates to a matter which is not primarily the concern of the Government of India; if so, the details thereof;
- (iii) whether it asks for information on a matter which is under adjudication by a court of law having jurisdiction in any part of India; and
- (iv) whether it seeks information about matter which are in their nature secret.

In case the subject matter of any of the above mentioned question(s) DOES NOT PERTAIN to the Ministry/Department of External Affairs they may urgently take up the matter with the concerned Ministry/Department for TRANSFER THEREOF AND ITS ACCEPTANCE by that Ministry/Department under intimation to this Secretariat. The acceptance must reach this Secretariat ten days before the date of answer. The Ministry/Department may kindly NOTE that unless the transfer is accepted by the Ministry/Department to which it is proposed to be transferred, the question will remain in the name of the Ministry/Department to which it is originally addressed by the Members and no transfer will be effected after a question is admitted and printed.

UNDER SECRETARY

To

The Ministry/Department of  
(Parliament Section),  
New Delhi.

External Affairs

Urgent  
We have some prev. pro.  
M. put up. RS 13  
23/11

US(EW)/J. 23/11  
Wrote to FS(POT), H. Connid London.



119

NOTICE OFFICE

Dy. No. ....

Date, .....

001983

RAJYA SABHA / राज्य सभा  
QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER  
मौखिक उत्तर के लिए प्रश्न

QUESTION BRANCH

S. Q. Dy. No. ....

Date .....

001999

NEW DELHI

Place / स्थान

10.12.1998

Date / दिनांक

FROM / प्रश्नकर्ता

SANTOSH BAGRODIA

M.P./संसद सदस्य

To/सेवा में,

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL / महासचिव,

RAJYA SABHA, NEW DELHI / राज्य सभा, नई दिल्ली।

SIR/MADAM, महोदय/महोदया,

Under Rule 39 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business, I give notice of the following Questions  
प्रक्रिया तथा कार्य संचालन संबंधी नियमों के नियम, 39 के अंतर्गत, मैं निम्नलिखित प्रश्न को सूचना देता हूँ। जिसका मौखिक  
for oral answer on/उत्तर.....को दिया जाये।

Yours Faithfully / भवदीय,

Member / सदस्य

Division No./विभाजन सं०.....

Order of preference / प्राथमिकता क्रम

\*Will the Minister of ..EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.....be pleased to state:

\*क्या.....मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(a)(क)

19. a) Is it true that the British Govt. treated Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose as a war criminal after the end of 2nd World war ? If so give details ?
- b) What steps Govt. has taken in this regard with British Govt. ?
- c) If not, will Govt. take up the matter immediately in the interest of the sentiments of every Indian in the country ?

VIEW

2

18/11

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No. *WT/125/6/98-EW*

New Delhi the.....19

From : Foreign New Delhi

To : Hicomind London

**Shri Pavan Kapoor, First Secretary (Pol) from Under Secretary (EW-I)**

1. The Ministry of Home Affairs has informed us that following a Writ Petition ~~filed~~ in the High Court of Orissa, for the removal of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose's name from the list of war criminals in United Kingdom, Japan and Germany, the High Court has directed GOI, to take up the matter with the concerned Govts, for removal of Netaji's name from the list in question.

2. You might recollect that, in November 1998, we had requested information regarding the same issue, for answering a parliament question (which was subsequently dropped). We understand that the mission has already contacted the Army Historical Branch of the Ministry of Defence, UK, for information regarding the same. Grateful, if you could kindly revert to us at the earliest, with the relevant information.

*Regards,*

*Vani S. Rao*  
(Vani S. Rao)

Under Secretary (EW-I)  
January 1<sup>st</sup> 1999

*7/c*  
*Recd on 4/1/99*  
*at 1155 hrs.*  
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